

# Connecticut Guardian

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## Rell sworn in as state's 87th governor

"Today we chart a new course. Today we begin to restore faith, integrity and honor to our government. It is our solemn obligation. It will be our lasting legacy." *M. Jodi Rell, Governor (Story P 14-15)*



*M. Jodi Rell is sworn as the 87th governor of the state of Connecticut on the north steps of the Capitol by Chief Justice William J. Sullivan of the state Supreme Court, while her husband, Louis Rell, holds the family bible. Also with Rell are her daughter, Meredith O'Connor; her son, Michael Rell and her son-in-law, Matthew O'Connor. Rell becomes only the second woman to govern the state of Connecticut. During her inaugural address, Rell said "A new administration is taking shape, and though awed and inspired by the incredible responsibilities that await me, I assume the governorship of our great state with respect, honor and modesty." (Photo by Spc. Jesse J. Stanley, 65th PCH)*



# Up Front with the Adjutant General

## Congratulations to the new Commander-in-Chief Forward March!

At noon on July 1 the Honorable M. Jodi Rell was sworn in as the 87<sup>th</sup> Governor of the State of Connecticut, thus becoming the Commander-in-Chief, or Captain General, of the State of Connecticut's Military Department.

I want to congratulate Governor Rell and hereby pledge the whole-hearted support of our great organization as she faces the challenges ahead.

Section 27-14 of the General Statutes of Connecticut states that "The Governor shall be the Captain General and, as such, Commander-in-Chief of the militia, and of the National Guard, not in the service of the United States, and may employ it, or any part of it, for the defense or relief of the state or any part of its inhabitants or territory; and shall have all the powers necessary to carry into effect the provisions of this chapter."

As Soldiers we are accustomed to the traditional transfer of responsibility and the symbolisms represented during change of command ceremonies and thus drive on and never lose sight of the mission at hand. Remember we are still a nation at war.

Today there are nearly 250 members of

our organization deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and the Global War on Terrorism. Other units have been alerted and preparations for future rotations are ongoing.

Gov. Rell is no stranger to the Connecticut National Guard. She is a true friend and steadfast supporter of the organization.

This past winter, during one of the most difficult times in the lives of the loved ones of those deployed, the then Lt. Gov. Rell kicked off "Operation ELF" in support of the 1,100 families of those deployed.

The outpouring of support and appreciation from the citizens of Connecticut was tremendous and solely attributed to the efforts of Gov. Rell and her genuine concern for the families involved.

I am confident Gov. Rell's long history of dedicated support to the Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airmen who serve in the Guard and Reserves of this great state will continue into the future.

I would also like to thank all the members of the Connecticut National Guard and State Militia units who participated and contributed to the success of Gov. Rell's Swearing-In Ceremony. On relatively short

notice the organization coordinated and honored the governor with utmost professionalism in a military tradition that dates back hundreds of years and marks the seamless transition of power. Please join me in welcoming Gov. Rell as the Commander-in-Chief and congratulations on a job well done.

The National Guard Association of the United States is promoting a membership drive in anticipation of its Annual Conference in September to be held in Las Vegas, Nevada. I am proud to announce the appointment of Col. Thomas Heath and Capt. Charles Jaworski as NGAUS Air and Army secretaries. Both will serve as NGAUS representatives for their respective services and you will be hearing more about membership from them in the near future. Please join me in supporting Connecticut's chapter, the National Guard Association of Connecticut (NGACT).

As always, keep your head in the game!



Maj. Gen.  
William A. Cugno  
Adjutant General

# Connecticut Guardian

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# Perspectives

## After serving your country with the 1109<sup>th</sup> AVCRAD in Operation Enduring and Iraq Freedom, does Independence Day hold any extra meaning for you?



1<sup>ST</sup> LT. RAYMOND CHICOSKI  
1109<sup>TH</sup> AVCRAD

*It has more meaning for me in regards to the people of Iraq, the newly found freedoms that they have and what we have done to help achieve this for them.*



STAFF SGT. MICHAEL LANDRY  
1109<sup>TH</sup> AVCRAD

*It has made me more aware of my service and duty to my country and the people who served before me and the sacrifices they made.*



SGT. EDGAR TECUN-CASTANEDA  
1109<sup>TH</sup> AVCRAD

*For me it means a lot, especially now that I'm a US citizen.*

SGT. 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS ALICE SYLVESTER  
1109<sup>TH</sup> AVCRAD

*It makes you appreciate the freedoms that you have, after seeing other countries striving for their own independence.*



SPEC. JUNWEI TAN  
1109<sup>TH</sup> AVCRAD

*I feel like I've done something important for the country and now I get to enjoy the freedoms that I fought for with my family and loved ones.*



SGT. MARIA MOSHER  
1109<sup>TH</sup> AVCRAD

*It definitely has changed my perception of the holiday, I'm more appreciative of the sacrifices for my independence that the Soldiers that have served before me and that are still serving over in Iraq.*





# Images of an inspection; Fighter Wing undergoes ORI

STAFF SGT. CAROLYN A. ASELTON  
103<sup>RD</sup> FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS NCOIC

The 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing conducted an Operational Readiness Inspection to evaluate its combat capabilities May 17-25 at the base.

More than 100 9<sup>th</sup> Air Force inspectors critiqued unit members as they simulated mobilizing, deploying overseas and then performing sustained combat operations.

Phase One of the inspection required members to prepare for deployment by completing tasks like receiving shots, packing equipment and readying the A-10 aircraft for overseas flight.

Once “deployed,” personnel constructed sandbag bunkers. A process called regeneration then had maintenance workers drop fuel tanks from the aircraft and armament specialists uploaded bombs, missiles and 30 mm ammunition.

Phase Two brought combat. The fighter wing launched aircraft while under attack. Personnel worked in chemical warfare ensembles complete with gas masks. Airman demonstrated their self-aid and buddy care skills tending to injured coworkers. Security forces provided round-the-clock antiterrorism force protection. Service flight airmen cooked hot lunches in a mobile kitchen trailer.

ORIs are normally conducted every four years. The fighter wing’s previous ORI was in Savannah, Ga., in 1995.



103rd Fighter Wing members check pallet contents with a packing list while two inspectors critique them during an Operational Readiness Inspection on base May 17-25. Airmen simulated shipping the equipment they would need for deployed combat operations. (Photo by Senior Airman Erin E. McNamara, 103<sup>rd</sup> Communications Flight)



Tech. Sgt. Carleen Longano, command post craftsman, and Mater Sgt. Kelly Coutier, command post superintendent, 103<sup>rd</sup> Fighter Wing, review emergency procedures in the command post during an Operational Readiness Inspection on base May 17-25. (Photo by Senior Airman Erin E. McNamara, 103<sup>rd</sup> Communications Flight)



The 103rd Fighter Wing simulated deploying overseas during an Operational Readiness Inspection on base May 17-25. Maintenance workers are ready to park taxiing aircraft and prepare them for regeneration. (Photo by Senior Airman Erin E. McNamara, 103<sup>rd</sup> Communications Flight)



# Facelift for busy facility

SPEC. JESSE J. STANLEY  
65<sup>TH</sup> PCH

The Unit Training Equipment Site (UTES), outside of Stone's Ranch in East Lyme, has gotten a facelift recently. The site handles maintenance for everything from light-wheeled vehicles to cranes for 14 units. The facility also supports the vehicles used in annual training by several out of state units that drill at Stone's Ranch. Units from the Navy and Air Force occasionally use their facilities as well.

The renovation was started in October 2003 and was scheduled for completion by the end of June 2004.

The resulting changes have modernized the facility, improved safety, improved organization, increased security and have made it easier to use said 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Sean Dixon, UTES supervisor.

"I don't think there is any other site that can compare to it," said Dixon.

A great deal of effort was made to make the site safer he added.

Originally there was one eyewash station in the site, now there are four. The floor has been marked with yellow lanes that are safe areas to walk through. The ventilation system was improved to allow for fumes from vehicles to escape safely.

In order to make the facility a great deal easier to use and more organized, a room that was used to hold parts was originally cut off from the main shops. This meant that in order to get a needed part or tool a mechanic had to walk outside and around the building and back. The wall was knocked down on two areas to create new

entrances to this room. The parts room was also organized with cages so each unit that uses the facility would have its own area for storage. The large sliding doors were equipped with automatic door openers. Lighting was also improved throughout the entire area making it safer and easier to work inside the site.

A great deal of work was done outside as well. The large bays in the front were power washed and repainted. The bays in the back were repaired and given a new coat of stucco. The fences were replaced with new taller fences thereby increasing security and the parking lot was enlarged.

"With the renovations currently accomplished, the UTES will be capable of supporting Task Force Husky and maintenance training for state units during annual training in the coming years," said Col. Stan Syman, Surface Maintenance Manager.

"We can fit any vehicle the Connecticut National Guard has," said Dixon. "We could fit two battalions here comfortably."

"The renovations have been absolutely incredible," said Dixon. "It has exceeded all my expectations so far."

"A lot of people are to thank for the progress we have made," said Syman. "Without the adjutant general's guidance,



A five-ton truck awaits to be repaired in the newly renovated Unit Training Equipment Site (UTES) maintenance shop. (Photo by Sgt. Patrick Clark, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH)

outstanding support from the staff of the Facilities Management Office (FMO) such as Jim Cavanna and Ken Bergeron, dedication from people like Lt. Col. Gerry Lukowski, facilities management officer and Diane Marini, this project would not be what it has become. Also, Lt. Dixon as a young lieutenant did an outstanding job."

With the current renovations behind it the UTES looks toward what improvements still need to be made.

The site has 14 working bays. There are plans of opening seven more within the next year.

"There is still much to be done," said Syman. "The gravel roadway to Stone's Ranch needs to be done, concrete aprons installed and modernization of the classroom and latrines."

"Ultimately I hope it gives the guys a sense of pride to work here," said Dixon.



Civilian contractors work on the exterior of the Unit Training Equipment Site (UTES) vehicle bays. The facility is undergoing many changes to make it more responsive to the needs of the National Guard. (Photo by Sgt. Patrick Clark, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH)

## Property Book Team gets home

SGT. PATRICK CLARK  
65<sup>TH</sup> PCH

The State Centralized Property Book Team of the Connecticut Army National Guard has found a new home at the Camp Hartell Army Depot located in Windsor Locks. Formerly located in the Director of Logistics offices on the third floor of the State Armory in Hartford, the recent move looks to be a permanent relocation.

The Property Book Team is a four-person team attached to Joint Force Headquarters-Connecticut and supervised by Warrant Officer James Hughes. The team's main responsibilities are to track, receive and turn in non-expendable property such as vehicles and weapons for all Connecticut Army National Guard Units. The new location at Camp Hartell helps the team expedite the process of receiving and turning-in items, by completing the transaction in one place.

Before the move, items being turned in were processed and accepted at the State Armory, then were sent to the Supply Depot at Camp Hartell. After the items were accepted and cleared, then the submitted paperwork had to be completed back at the State Armory.

With the new location at the Connecticut Supply Depot in building 1010, all transactions are posted and completed immediately in one location.

This makes it more convenient for units and it increases the accuracy and accountability because the team is at the point of origin and receiving, said Hughes.

"Being located jointly with the warehouse is the best place for us to be," said Hughes. "Now that everything is centrally located, the command will only improve its efficiency and overall benefits of this will impact everyone."

In addition to the move the team has started using a new web-based property book accounting system, which enables the team to keep track of multiple units simultaneously and all properties assigned to that respected unit.

Combining the move and the new accounting system the Property Book Team is in the position to better serve every unit and their needs throughout the state, said Hughes.

"By consolidating the property book and accounting into one team, it's less of a load for the major commands and the battalions in terms of property accounting," said Hughes. "They'll find their operations more streamlined and accurate."



# One mile, 600 feet at a time

SPEC. JESSE JAMES STANLEY  
65<sup>th</sup> PCH

Some might say it is just a road, but to the 242<sup>nd</sup> Engineer Company that 600-foot gravel road, "Road Project Foxtrot," represents two weeks of hard work.

The weather cooperated; unlike in different AT periods, so there was no rain to slow the engineers' progress. However, that also meant that there was no relief from the heat or the insects.

This project was performed as part of Joint Task Force Husky (JTFH), a training program designed to improve the skills of engineer units and to enhance combat readiness.

This work cannot be done during regular drill periods so it is important that the mission is complete during their annual training.

"With a road project you cannot just come out for two days a month," said Lt. Col. Michael Vasile, battalion commander.

"They are best done when you have a significant amount of time. It allows us the time necessary to make real progress on the project. To get the resources and the people together and the site surveyed so we can start working takes more than two days alone."

After the terrain is surveyed scrapers strip off the topsoil and organic material.

"You can't build a road on topsoil," said Maj. James Gibbons, 242<sup>nd</sup> executive officer. "It would degrade very quickly."

The road is then shaped and layers of gravel are added.

"The biggest obstacle we usually have is the weather," said Vasile. "If it rains it really degrades our ability to move forward with the project. This year we have been lucky."

The area being worked on at Stone's Ranch brings other challenges, regardless of the weather.

"The most challenging part here is the terrain," said Spc. Jason Foster. "There are a lot of rocks here. Every time we move some earth we find more and they need to be removed."

There is another mission besides the improvement of the road that is accomplished during the annual training period.

"Working on this mission serves a dual purpose," said Gibbons. "We improve the road and we train our engineers in their job at the same time. We've got guys who have done this a lot and guys who have never built a road before. It is a great experience for them all, keeping their skills fresh and learning new ones."

Not only did a lot of work go into improving that road in Stone's Ranch, but also a great deal of sweat, several thousand tons of gravel and most importantly a lot of heart.

Pvt. Josh Bohaczyk, a construction equipment operator for the 242<sup>nd</sup>, sat in his roller waiting for the operator driving the scraper to be done so he could smooth out and flatten the ground.

He wiped a bit of sweat off his brow and assessed the ground before him. The roller wasn't the fastest vehicle there, or the biggest,

but what it lacks in physical size it makes up for in weight.

"This is a great project," said Bohaczyk. "I am really enjoying working on this road."

Foster, a construction equipment operator for the 242<sup>nd</sup> drove the dozer slowly down the road.

With a practiced ease he operated the controls and maneuvered the massive vehicle around several piles of dirt as his ground guide signaled up to him in a seemingly complex language of hand signals.

He had to climb down from the tall dozer. He seemed rather small compared to the machine, which looks more like an armored tank than an earthmover.

"It is really easy to drive," said Foster. "Though I like the scrapers better. There are no hydraulics in those and when you hit the bumps you are weightless for a second, it is like being in a roller coaster."

Soldiers like Bohaczyk and Foster have upgraded more than a mile of road at Stone's Ranch during the last four years at annual training.

Using the Soldiers' skills, units participating in Joint Task Force Husky are able to improve the facility, train Soldiers and improve morale.

It is that morale and motivation that shows through as the Soldiers work, in this way Joint Task Force Husky is a success.



*A Bulldozer used to clear the path for Task Force Husky. Soldiers from the 242<sup>nd</sup> Engineering Battalion involved in TFH had to clear and level 600 feet of terrain before laying a continuation of the current road at Stone's Ranch. (Photo by Pfc. Jordan Werme, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH)*



*A Soldier from the 242<sup>nd</sup> Engineering Battalion moves his Bulldozer into position while clearing the path for the newest section of road at Stone's Ranch. The road construction was done as part of Task Force Husky, a yearly endeavor into the improvement of CTARNG training facilities. (Photo by Pfc. Jordan Werme, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH)*



# Don't get ripped off –College \$cams

Pfc. JORDAN E. WERME  
65<sup>TH</sup> PCH

**Y**ou've been selected by a 'national foundation' to receive a scholarship. We'll do all the work, we just need your credit card number to hold the scholarship for you. Your scholarship is guaranteed or you will receive a full refund."

If you are looking for money for college and hear this kind of pitch, run away. And fast.

Every year thousands of students are taken advantage of by individuals or companies involved with scholarship scams, costing more than \$100 million in loss annually.

But bogus scholarships are not the only way that students can be taken advantage of. According to education professionals there are two major ways for students and parents to be scammed while trying to get a quality education.

## Scholarship Scams

According to the FinAid Web-site ([www.FinAid.org](http://www.FinAid.org)), there are several different common scholarship scams that students and parents need to watch out for.

Many scams ask you to send them **money in advance** but fail to provide any result. Most victims of this scam usually accept the loss thinking that they simply did not win the scholarship.

Any scholarship that requires an **application fee** is probably not legitimate. Scammers will usually get nearly 10,000 applications for the bogus scholarship they are offering, with application fees between \$5 and \$35 dollars.

Even if they award two of the scholarships, they still see a large profit.

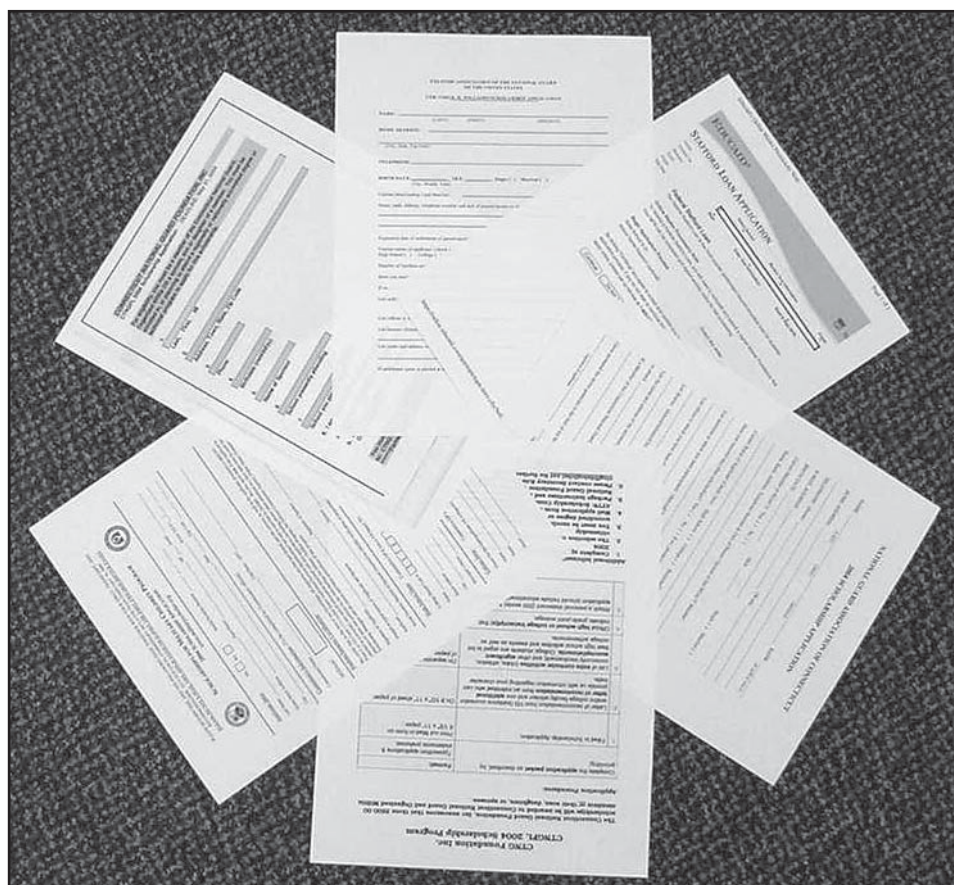
Some scams offer **low-interest loans** with a required up-front fee, but don't come through with the money after you pay. Legitimate education loans take their fees directly from the disbursement check and never require any up-front fees.

If you don't recognize the bank or other lender involved, show the scholarship offer to your bank's manager and get more information.

If you receive notice that you've won a scholarship but are **required to pay some sort redemption fee** or pay the taxes on the amount before collecting the scholarship, you may be about to get scammed.

If you don't remember entering your name into this contest you're probably better off not responding.

Any scholarship service that **guarantees you will win** a scholarship or refund your money should send a red flag up in your head. Most times they will simply pocket your money and leave you with nothing. Even if you do receive a list of scholarships, qualifying for a refund will prove difficult at best.



Many **financial aid seminars** are just cleverly disguised sales pitches for insurance or financial services. If a scholarship is presented as having insurance prerequisites it is violating federal regulations and insurance laws.

David Bufano, a school counselor at Brien McMahon High School, Norwalk, offers what he thinks is the easiest way to avoid being scammed.

"The best way for students to avoid any kind of scam is for them to work through their counselors," said Bufano, "and not just accept anything they get through the mail."

"I know a lot of high schools run (their own) scholarship programs, and when scholarships come in we incorporate them as part of our school, as part of our awards program," he said.

"So it's not like we don't know who the donors are when they're coming in. We've made contact with them. I know all these scholarship donors that are at our awards night. I have had dialogue with them, we've corresponded through the mail, they've provided me written information on the criteria for the scholarship, how much the scholarship is for. And then we also invite them to the awards ceremony."

There are some easy measures that students and parents can take to avoid being scammed.

FinAid provides the following Rules of Thumb:

1. If you must pay money to get money, it might be a scam.
2. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
3. Spend the time, not the money.
4. Never invest more than a postage

stamp to get information about scholarships.

5. Nobody can guarantee that you'll win a scholarship.

6. Legitimate scholarship foundations do not charge application fees.

7. If you're suspicious of an offer it's usually with good reason.

There are many other key phrases and claims to watch out for when applying for scholarships, according to FinAid.com.

Legitimate scholarship offers can never guarantee that anyone will win the award. Scholarship sponsors have the final say in who will receive the money, and any claim otherwise is false.

When scholarship offers claim "everyone is eligible," they are misleading at best. Scholarships are awarded only to those who meet the criteria set forth by the sponsor. Every sponsor is looking to award the scholarship to a very specific type of individual.

Scholarship applications require that the applicant complete his own paperwork, write his own essay and provide his own letters of recommendation. So a scholarship add which advertises, "We apply on your behalf," is going to do no such thing.

If the scholarship service claims high success rates or uses lots of exaggeration in its ad, watch out. Less than one percent of fee-based services will come through with any award.

Don't be too quick to hand over your personal information, especially if you did not initiate the conversation.

Telemarketer calls asking for bank account information, credit card numbers,

social security numbers or other personal information are probably scams. Exercise your skill with gravity and hang up the phone.

If a scholarship is using a mail drop address (such as a box number) or a residential address, or fails to provide a telephone number, use caution.

Some scholarship scams with use official-sounding names or names similar to those of legitimate federal agencies to foster a false feeling of trust. Make sure the name on the envelope matches the federal agency you think it is.

Most legitimate scholarship sponsors won't contact you until you have already inquired about the scholarship being offered, so an unsolicited mailing or telephone call should be handled cautiously.

Be aware that the federal government, U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce will never give an endorsement or recommendation to a private business, to include schools.

Look for professionalism in all correspondence. If you see poor spelling or typing errors, or sense a lack of professional appearance, you might be looking at a scam.

Legitimate scholarship sponsors will always notify winning applicants in writing, not by telephone. If you are awarded a scholarship by phone, you have not won a real scholarship.

Many scam offers may require a rushed response, but will make you wait several months for results.

Some will make "First Come, First Served" claims and demand you act now. Very few legitimate sponsors award their scholarships on a rolling basis, so be sure to take the time you need to make an informed decision.

If you are given the run-around for information or cannot get specific answers to questions, or if you feel you are being treated unfairly or abused, a scam could be in progress.

But the key is to be as informed as possible.

"If there's any skepticism on the part of that particular scholarship," said Bufano, "I would call them to get more information or encourage the student to call, but not to commit to anything until we can get more data."

"When you're working with scholarships," he says, "try to deal as much within your community, your city, your state, versus many that are coming from anywhere around the country. I'm more comfortable working with the ones from my state, with the exception of (some of the) larger ones."

For outgoing high school seniors and their parents, it is important to use the proper channels and resources available before deciding which scholarships to apply for.

The internet is a great resource for anyone needing information on scholarships or other financial aid, said Bufano.

"We have some good Websites under CollegeBoard.com that have good

# and how to avoid them

information on scholarships,” he said.

### Diploma Mills

The other way that potential college students are most commonly taken advantage of is by enrolling in a degree program that has not been accredited.

“The biggest scams out there are what we call Paper Mills or Diploma Mills,” said 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Paul L. Draper, education services officer, CTARNG

“Schools that are not accredited give you a low cost aspect to getting a degree. The problem is that you spend all this time and money going to school to get a degree that is absolutely worthless.

“(Students) think it’s going to be a cheaper way for them to get a degree, but in fact, without a fully accredited degree, they’re spending quite a bit of money to get these degrees that are absolutely useless.”

An accredited school is defined by [www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com) as one that has been recognized as maintaining standards requisite for its students to gain admission to other reputable institutions of higher education or to achieve credentials for

professional practice. In other words, if it’s not accredited, it’s meaningless.

Many of the Paper Mills will use mass mailings or spam to advertise their low-cost degree programs, including bogus offers for scholarships.

“Technically they can call it a scholarship,” said Draper, “but it’s just a reduced rate. They’ll bump the cost up and then offer a ‘scholarship’ to reduce it back to the original rate.”

A list of accredited schools is published annually by the American Council of Education, and is available through any education office or public library.

“We cannot give out tuition assistance if the school is not listed in this book,” said Draper.

There is no shortage of material available to help make an informed decision.

“If you’re in the Army, Air Force – the military period – always go through your education office,” said Draper. “Investigate the program. Don’t choose only of the convenience of the location, have a goal, know what you want. Your primary concern should be to find an accredited institution.”

### The Conclusion:

With all of the information so readily available in today’s world, it’s surprising to see that so many scams can still be so successful, but it happens.

Any student or parent of a student hoping for a college education and planning to apply for scholarships should use all of those resources to their fullest.

Two excellent Web resources are:

[www.FinAid.org](http://www.FinAid.org) and

[www.CollegeBoard.com](http://www.CollegeBoard.com).

Also, counselors at the high school and college level are available for assistance.

“We’re here as a resource,” Bufano said. “Part of my job is helping the student put together a college package in hopes of getting accepted. We always tell parents and students that it’s a process and not an event.

“It’s not something that just all of a sudden happens during your senior year. It’s a process that happens over a four-year period. First and foremost is you have to get there, you have to get accepted into a school. Then you start looking into the scholarship potential.”

## Scholarships for Military Children Program

Commissaries are an integral part of the quality of life offered to service members and their families.



The Scholarships for Military Children Program was created in recognition of the contributions of military families to the readiness of the fighting force and to celebrate the role of the commissary in the military family community.

It is the intent of the program that a scholarship funded through contributions be awarded annually for each commissary operated by the Defense Commissary Agency worldwide.

The Scholarships for Military Children Program is funded through the generosity of manufacturers and suppliers whose products are sold at military commissaries, worldwide.

We encourage military families to take advantage of their commissary benefits that not only provide a savings of more than 30 percent on the products purchased, but also support the military community through programs such as this scholarship.

The purchase of products from these companies funded the 2003 scholarship program.

The Fisher House Foundation is honored to be involved with the Scholarships for Military Children Program.

Fisher House Foundation provides a “Home Away from Home” near military medical centers for families experiencing a personal medical crisis and is one of the premiere quality of life organizations supporting military families.

The Foundation volunteered to underwrite the administration of this program.

One \$1500 will be awarded at every commissary location where qualified applications are received.

More than one scholarship per commissary may be available based on response and funding.

The scholarship provides for payment of tuition, books, lab fees and room and board.

## Military Scholarships

### Military Academies

#### • Army—West Point

Admissions Office  
United States Military Academy  
606 Thayer Road  
West Point, NY 10996-1797  
914-938-4041

#### • Navy—US Naval Academy

Director of Candidate Guidance  
United States Naval Academy  
117 Decatur Road  
Annapolis, MD 21402-5018  
800-638-9156

#### • Air Force

**US Air Force Academy**  
Cadet Admissions Office  
United States Air Force Academy  
2304 Cadet Drive, Suite 200  
Colorado Springs, CO 80840-5025  
719-472-2520

#### • Merchant Marines

**US Merchant Marine Academy**  
Admissions Office  
U. S. Merchant Marine Academy  
Kings Point, NY 11024-1699  
800-732-6267

#### • Coast Guard

**US Coast Guard Academy**  
Admissions Office  
U. S. Coast Guard Academy  
15 Mohegan Avenue  
New London, CT 06320  
203-444-8501

## Reserve Officer Training Corps

The military offers one-, two-, and four-year scholarships. Applicants are selected based on grades, SAT or ACT scores, and extracurricular activities.

ROTC isn’t offered at all colleges; contact one of the academies above for a full list of participating colleges.

There are a number of ROTC scholarships available; check with your local Armed Forces Recruiting Office for more information. Or visit the Web sites of the individual Armed Forces branches.

#### Army ROTC

[www.armyrotc.com](http://www.armyrotc.com)  
800-872-7682

#### Navy ROTC

[www.cnet.navy.mil/nrotc](http://www.cnet.navy.mil/nrotc)  
800-628-7682

#### Marine Corps

800-628-7682

#### Air Force ROTC

800-423-8723



# Standard AEF deployment length stretches to 120 days

FORWARD BY COL. DAN SCAVE  
COMMANDER, 103<sup>RD</sup> FIGHTER WING

The impact on the 103 FW is not completely known at this time, and there are several initiatives in the works to ensure the stability of the AEF and our participation. First, we are trying to ensure the AEF "buckets" are truly used to task all units assigned to the Wing. Currently some functional managers in the ANG have developed their own tasking methodology without any coordination with Wing Commanders or Weapon System Councils. The Medical Group and some units in the Mission Support Group fall into this category.

NGB wants to provide the same coverage in the revised AEF structure that we are currently providing. In a typical AEF "rainbow" that means that a unit would have to cover a 40 day window rather than a 30 day window. The impact on employers and members volunteerism can only be guessed at this point, but most unit commanders believe that the 10 day increase will have a negative impact. Several Weapon System Councils are looking at the possibility of restructuring their AEF alignment, so that 4 units would be available for the 120 day AEF, resulting in the traditional 30 day coverage requirement.

In addition to these changes, it looks like the era of 15 day AEF

rotations is ending. Combatant Commanders don't feel comfortable with 15 day rotations in the current security environment at our deployed locations. The risk is greater, and the chance of a base going "hot" at any moment are much greater now than during our typical NORTHERN WATCH/SOUTHERN WATCH days. Our total Air Force AEF footprint is a bit smaller now, but it's a more volatile situation and the best indicator Combatant Commanders have of their forces responding properly is their Airmen's experience in the AOR of properly responding.

As always unit members have opportunities to volunteer for AEF tasking. Slots that cannot be filled by the tasked units are sent to the field to try to fill. When it's not in conflict with other unit priorities, these opportunities are sent out and we have people volunteering and doing great service.

Our next scheduled AEF bucket is about January of 2007. That's good news in that it gives us time to fix the problems identified during our ORI, plus have an opportunity to schedule a good unit deployment. These types of deployments provide a great opportunity for training, plus a great opportunity for building unit morale. With the focus on AEF, Contingency and ORI, we are long overdue for that type of unit activity!

STAFF SGT. C. TODD LOPEZ  
AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS

Most Airmen scheduled to deploy in upcoming air and space expeditionary force packages will see their orders expand from 90 to 120 days.

The change in deployment length will begin with AEF cycle 5 in September. Those who deploy as part of AEF 1 and 2 should prepare for a 120-day deployment.

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper announced the change in his "Sight Picture" on June 4. The reason for the change is that the requirement for deployable forces is not expected to decrease in the foreseeable future, he said.

"Simply put, the demands on our deployable forces have not diminished and are not expected to decline for some time,"

the general wrote. "Further, the Air Force component commander in the Central Command area of operations has asked us to deploy people for longer tour lengths to allow greater continuity for expeditionary commanders in the field."

To help extend tour lengths to 120 days, the entire AEF cycle was adjusted. The new cycle, now 20 months in length, allows for a four-month eligibility window and a 16-month training window.

Jumper also said he intends to increase the pool of Airmen eligible for deployment. Currently, the Air Force has about 272,000 Airmen earmarked as deployment-eligible.

"I have asked all of our major commands to aggressively review the assumptions upon which they exclude Airmen from our AEFs and take immediate steps to maximize

those postured (for deployment)," the general said.

The changes to the AEF cycle, while possibly difficult for some, should be considered by all Airmen as part of their commitment to the Air Force, General Jumper said.

"Let me be perfectly clear — in our Air Force, every Airman is expeditionary, every Airman will know (his or her) place in the AEF system, and every Airman will be prepared to support the combatant commander, whether deployed, in (the continental United States) via reachback, or employed at home station," General Jumper said.

Airmen currently deployed as part of AEF 7 and 8 and AEF 9 and 10 will still be held to the 90-day deployment schedule.

**Join the  
Connecticut  
National  
Guard on  
Saturday,  
Sept. 11, 2004  
as we welcome  
home all our  
Operation  
Iraqi  
Freedom,  
Operation  
Enduring  
Freedom and  
Operation  
Noble Eagle  
Heroes at  
Camp Rell,  
Niantic, Conn.**

## *New Web Site explains National Security Personnel System*

SGT. 1ST CLASS DOUG SAMPLE, USA  
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

The Defense Department has launched a new Web site to educate civilian employees about the new National Security Personnel System that will introduce sweeping changes in the way the department hires, pays, promotes, disciplines and fires civilian employees.

Brad Bunn, acting deputy program executive officer, NSPS Program Executive Office, explained the site is meant to help DoD employees understand the new personnel system.

"Change is difficult, and lack of information about coming changes often leads to stress and anxiety and, unfortunately, misperceptions about what those changes really mean," he said. "We recognize that, and are committed to communicating to our employees about what NSPS will mean to

them. The Web site is one communications tool in our toolbox to do that," he said. "We will be open, honest, and clear about NSPS, and our Web site is designed to encourage employee involvement and interest, and minimize misconceptions."

He also emphasized the site will help those affected by the changes to understand the "rationale and benefits" of NSPS and that it will be "extremely useful" in keeping employees informed and updated as the system evolves.

Congress authorized the new personnel system as part of the fiscal 2004 National Defense Authorization Act, allowing the Defense Department new authority to develop new civilian human resources, labor-management relations and employee appeals systems.

The new Web site offers an overview of what DoD employees can expect from the

new personnel system, as well as information regarding issues of labor-management and employee unions, and links to NSPS-related documents.

One of the more powerful features of the NSPS Web site is a mechanism for visitors to submit comments and ideas about NSPS directly to the NSPS Program Executive Office, Bunn said. "We continuously monitor the input from visitors, and the ideas and comments we receive through the Web site will help us gauge what employees and other stakeholders are really concerned about," he said.

Bunn said the site will be a primary NSPS communication vehicle, and it will be used throughout all phases of the NSPS design and implementation process.

"It certainly won't be our only means of communications, but it's a central source of information on NSPS," he explained. "We

want to ensure DoD employees have a reliable, continuing source of information as the system develops."

The Web site is the second attempt by NSPS to get the word out about the new personnel system. A previous Web site was taken down as a result of the three-week strategic review of the NSPS design and implementation process directed by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld in April.

Bunn said the new site reflects a conscious effort to minimize confusion about plans for NSPS. "We decided to completely redesign the site," he said, "giving it a new look and feel, to ensure that it reflects the results of that strategic review, including leadership's commitment to openness and transparency in the NSPS process."



# President Commemorates 40th Anniversary of Civil Rights Act

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT COMMEMORATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1964 CIVIL RIGHTS ACT  
THE EAST ROOM

**THE PRESIDENT:** Thank you all for coming, and welcome to the White House. I am so pleased you could join us to celebrate a great anniversary of justice and equality in America.

I appreciate members of my Cabinet being here, and a lot of members of my administration. I want to thank many of our distinguished guests who have joined us today. I'm so pleased to see Dr. Dorothy Hite — thank you so much for coming.

We've got two Lieutenant Governors, Michael Steele and Jennette Bradley, with us. Thank you both for being here today. Marc Morial — where are you, Marc? He must be somewhere. There he is. Thanks for coming. I didn't recognize you outside the "Big Easy."

Lou Sullivan is with us. I'm honored you're here, Lou. Thanks for coming, sir. My friend, Bob Woodson, President of the National Center for Neighborhood Enterprise, is here. Thanks for coming, glad you're here. Bill Coleman, former Secretary of Transportation, I'm honored you're here. Thurgood Marshall, Jr. is with us today. Thank you so much for being here. Appreciate — I'm honored you're here. It's pretty neat to have a great father, isn't it?

I'm going to save one announcement for a little later, special announcement. But I do want to recognize Jack Valenti, who was the Special Assistant to President Lyndon Johnson. Jack, we're honored you're here. Thank you for coming.

Forty years ago, in many parts of America, basic rights were observed or denied based entirely on race. Offensive laws regulated every detail of society: where you can get your hair cut, which hospital ward you can be treated in, which park or library you could visit. A person looking for a job or even a place to stay the night could be turned away merely because the color of the skin. And that person had very little recourse under federal law. Forty years ago this week, that system of indignity and injustice was ended by the Civil Rights Act signed into law in this very room.

As of July the 2nd, 1964, no longer could weary travelers be denied a room in a hotel or a table at a restaurant. No longer could

any American be forced to drink from a separate water fountain or sit at the back of a bus just because of their race. All discrimination did not end that day, but from that day forward, America has been a better and fairer country.

Today we have here on display, outside this room, the first and last pages of the Civil Rights Act, and one of the pens that Lyndon B. Johnson used for the signature. That law was a long time in coming, and before it arrived, the conscience of America had to be awakened. That conscience was stirred by men and women who held sit-ins at lunch counters, who rode the buses on Freedom Rides, who endured and overcame the slurs and the fire hoses and the burning crosses. The conscience of America was outraged by the ambush of Medgar Evers, by kidnappings and terror bombings, and by the murder of four young girls in a church on a Sunday. Our nation's conscience was moved by hundreds of thousands who marched right here in the nation's capital to demand the full promise of the Declaration and America's founding law.

President John F. Kennedy heard the voices of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and others, and took up the challenge. Five months before his death, the President said our nation was confronted with a moral issue as old as the scriptures

and as clear as the American Constitution, and he called on Congress to pass civil rights legislation.

After President Kennedy was assassinated, some wondered if the new President, a son of the south, would carry

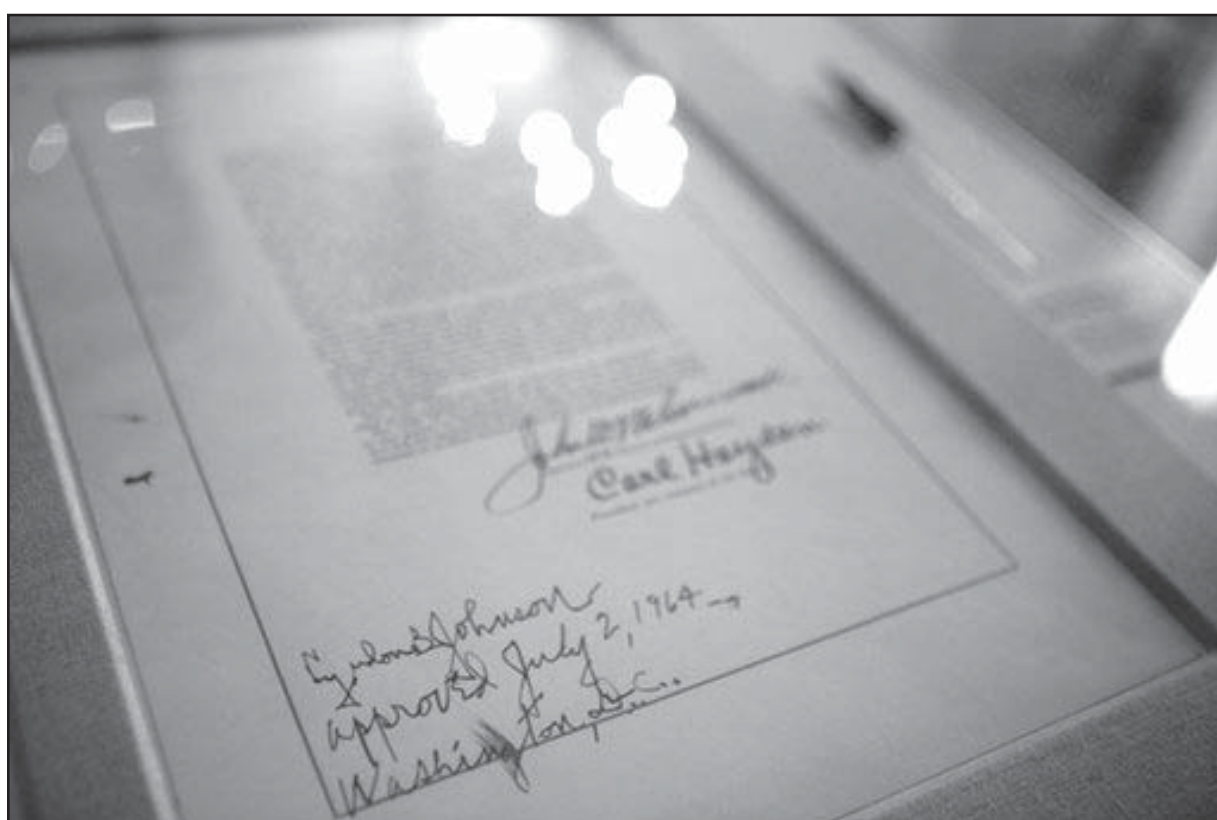
forward the work of civil rights. Very soon they would know the answer. During the Senate debate on the Civil Rights Act, one of the longest debates in Senate history, President Lyndon Johnson used all his powers of persuasion,

and they were considerable. No one escaped the LBJ treatment — not senators, not their staffs, not even their families. "It is said that when President Johnson called reluctant senators at home and a child answered, he would say, 'Now you tell your daddy that the President called.'" "And he'd be very proud to have your daddy on his side."

It was more than the force of Johnson's personality that helped win the day, it was the force of President Johnson's conviction on behalf of a just cause. As a young man, he'd seen the ugly effects of discrimination. As President, he was determined to fight it by law, regardless of the political risk. One Southern senator warned him, "It's going to cost you the election." He replied, "If that's the price I've got to pay, I will pay it gladly."

Lyndon Johnson is known to history as

**Lyndon Johnson is known to history as the President who championed and signed the Civil Rights Act.**



The last page of the Civil Rights Act document as displayed at the White House ceremony. (White House photo)

the President who championed and signed the Civil Rights Act. And we recognize and remember the contributions of this strong Texan and great American. And we're honored to have his daughter, Luci Baines Johnson, with us today. We're honored you're here. Thanks for coming. I appreciate you coming.

We also remember the legislators of both parties who worked tirelessly to bring the bill to passage — in particular, Senators Mike Mansfield of Montana, Senator Edward Dirksen of Illinois, and Senator Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota. When it mattered most, these principled men rose to the responsibility of their time, and our nation honors them today.

After the Civil Rights Act became law, the change was felt immediately all across America. In 1964, Dale Long was a 12-year-old boy living in Birmingham, Alabama. One day, before the law was passed, Dale and his brother convinced their father to take them to a movie where blacks had to enter through an alley and could only sit in the upstairs balcony. "I could see the look of humiliation on my dad's face," he remembers. A few months after the Civil Rights Act, the Long brothers returned to that theater. As they remember it, they were with a friend. "We went to see a James Bond movie," Dale says, and this time they entered through the front door and sat where they pleased.

The indignity of Dale Long's first experience at that movie theater seems like something that happened many lifetimes ago. Yet, such experiences are within the living memory of millions of our citizens. These past four decades in American life give witness to the power of good laws to prevent injustice and encourage the finest qualities of our national character.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 gives all Americans another reason to be proud of our country. The work of equality is not done because the evil of bigotry is not finally defeated. Yet the laws of this nation and the good heart of this nation are on the side of equality. And as Dr. King reminded us, "We must not rest until the day when justice rolls down like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream."

I'm honored you all are here today. We'll have a reception on the other side of this beautiful house. Thank you for coming. May God continue to bless America.



# Focus: Balancing AC/RC force structure impacts 100K positions

JOE BURLAS

(Editor's note: This is the sixth in a series of articles on the Army's 17 immediate focus areas.)

The changes planned under Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker's Active-Component/Reserve-Component Balance focus area will mean more civil affairs, military police, transportation and port operations Soldiers in the Army, and fewer artillerymen, air defense troops and Ordnance Soldiers.

Schoomaker told members of Congress at the end of January that the active Army will temporarily grow by about 30,000 Soldiers over the next few years to ensure the Army meets its worldwide commitments in the war on terrorism while resetting and rebalancing to be more ready and relevant.

AC/RC Balance is about restructuring capabilities across the force, not changing the end strengths of the active, Reserve and National Guard components of the Army, said Col. Paul Hilton, chief of Programs, G3, whose branch conducted analysis in support of the focus area.

The current authorized strengths are 482,400 for the active Army; 205,000 for the Army Reserve; and 350,000 for the Army National Guard.

The Guard and Reserve have been integrally involved with the redesign planning and decision-making process from its inception, a senior Army official said. He added that the force balancing is designed to increase readiness, relevance, predictability, sustainability, survivability, and deployability to enhance the warfighter.

"This effort reflects the times we live in and the threats the nation faces in the contemporary operating environment," Hilton said. "It is about us being more ready and relevant to do the things we have to do against those who would do us harm today, and not the structure we built to face massive Soviet armored formations across the Fulda Gap during the Cold War."

The rebalance of forces supports the chief's "Modularity" concept which will move the Army to a brigade-based design, Hilton said.

Changing the Army structure is not new; it is something the Army analyzes annually as it looks toward future needs and prepares its budget for Congress to approve, Hilton said. In fact about a third of the 100,000 spaces the restructure calls for were

identified and planned for prior to Schoomaker coming out of retirement to take the reins of Army leadership as chief of staff last summer, he said.

Specifically, routine Army analysis demonstrated the need to increase its numbers of Special Forces, military police and civil affairs capabilities within the active force shortly following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. Additionally, a DoD memorandum issued in July called for the Army to be able to field a rapid response force capable of responding to any low- to midlevel intensity crisis in the world with minimum need to reach into the reserve-component to meet deployment manning requirements in the first

of these policies will be irrelevant as the Army moves to implement Force Stabilization, Hilton said.

Schoomaker directed the G-1 to make some other policy revisions and determine how they in combination with Force Stabilization impact the problem before making any further force structure changes.

Schoomaker also directed the Army National Guard and Army Reserve to establish personnel accounts for their Soldiers who are non-deployable due to attendance at training or schools. Today in the AC there are 482,400 Soldiers authorized, but the Army only has enough

Command has faced in ongoing operations, Hilton said, is the need to reach into two or three units for Soldiers in order to get one unit deployed. On paper, Hilton said, the Army has enough units to source requirements, but the reality on the ground is that not all of those units are really available.

There are bill payers for both the stand up of new force structure units and for 100-percent manning with 100-percent deployable Soldiers. Eliminating less-used and undermanned force structure will allow the Army to resource units that are in high demand, officials said.

Hardest hit will be the Army's field artillery community, which recently lost a brigade's worth of National Guard artillerymen who are currently being trained to serve as military police officers. The Army plans to disband a significant number of artillery battalions in the active force and the National Guard, Hilton said.

The Army's short-range air defense artillery is another bill payer at the division and below level. "We are still going to keep some SHORAD capability at the corps level in the AC and actually fill previous shortfalls at echelons above division in the National Guard," Hilton said.

About 4,000 manning slots will come from the recently eliminated 71L, clerk-typist, military occupational specialty.

"Many Reserve and National Guard Soldiers have an affinity for the units they are in or the particular jobs they are doing," Hilton said. "In some cases those Soldiers are in units where their fathers, grandfathers and great-grandfathers have served."

Both the Guard and Reserve are taking this into account as they work the details of what kind and where structure will be reduced, Hilton said. In fact, he said the USAR and ARNG are working cooperatively to mitigate inactivations of the same types of units in the same geographic area.

While some have already started, most of the rebalance efforts will occur between 2005 and 2007.

"AC/RC Balance is about building a campaign-quality Army capable of rapidly responding to combatant commander requirements while maintaining the depth necessary to defend the homeland while performing an array of stability and support operations," Hilton said.

**"It is about us being more ready and relevant to do the things we have to do against those who would do us harm today, and not the structure we built to face massive Soviet armored formations across the Fulda Gap during the Cold War."**

*Col. Paul Hilton, chief of Programs, G3*

15 days of the operation.

Schoomaker expanded that to include the first 30 days of a deployment and further directed the revision of some policies and unit designs to increase readiness in the force.

First he directed that all Army early-deploying units be authorized 100 percent of the Soldiers required in the unit design. Currently some AC units are authorized fewer people than they require to perform their wartime mission and must be augmented before deployment. These units will be brought to 100 percent authorizations, or in some cases where they are not warfighting units, converted to garrison-type unit designs more appropriate to their mission.

Next he asked the task force to look at what was causing high rates of non-deployable Soldiers in units and he set a goal of 100-percent deployable Soldiers in units. Members of the task force from G-1 determined that the major contributor to non-deployables is policies, especially those related to individual replacements and permanent change-of-station moves. Many

units to use 419,000 of them, Hilton said. That way the Army can account for Soldiers who are in initial-entry training or between units.

Both the Guard and Reserve now have more unit spaces than they have authorizations for, Hilton said. He explained this has meant that units can never be fully manned. This method made sense during the Cold War when the potential need to rapidly expand the force was more important than readiness in reserve units, Hilton said, but does not meet the Army's need today.

The Army National Guard will reduce unit structure from 388,000 to around 342,000 spaces while maintaining all of the 350,000 people they are authorized today. Likewise the Army Reserve will only have about 185,000 spaces for the 205,000 authorizations they are allowed, Hilton said. He said the same number of people spread across fewer units will improve manning and personnel readiness.

One of the significant problems Forces

## The Connecticut National Guard Welcomes Home its Heroes

Sept. 11, 2004  
Camp Rell, Niantic, Connecticut



# 103<sup>d</sup> ACS performs exercise in support of inspection

LT. COL PAMELA K. TITUS  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

The 103<sup>d</sup> ACS conducted a two-day exercise during the June drill in support of an inspection for the 128<sup>th</sup> ACS, Volk Field, WS.

The exercise used an OPERATION Desert Storm scenario of build up and war activity. Exercise scenarios are developed by an external agency and can be used once approved by Air Combat Command.

"We are data linking with the 128<sup>th</sup> using a 20 ft satellite," said Cpt. Joseph C. Sorrentino, senior director of mission crew for the exercise.

The exercise also provided a valuable opportunity for the 103<sup>d</sup> ACS, because radar mission crews have nine positions that have to maintain currency in their specialties. The specialties are broken into two separate entities: weapons crew and the surveillance site.

The weapons crew manages air assets, aerial refueling, close air support and direct air-to-air combat.

The surveillance site manages the data link pictures and uplinks them to higher headquarters.

"Surveillance identifies the aircraft so we

know who the bad guys are and we know who the good guys are," Sorrentino said.

The 103<sup>d</sup> ACS works parallel with other units and acts as a central hub for these units to make a "Recognizable Air Picture" and send the picture to higher headquarters. The pieces of the picture can come from bases or AWAC aircraft.

"Today we go into hostilities. It's a full war scenario. We're sending strike aircraft, and CAPS," said Sorrentino. CAPS are Combat Air Patrol aircraft that fly in the area ready to attack upon command either through visual or interception.

"We'll run the war. We'll manage assets so there is enough gas in the air and there are enough weapons. There should be no gaps in coverage. Someone is always protecting the borders," said Sorrentino describing the mission.

There is a simulation team for friendly fighters and enemy aircraft. They are external to the exercise, but they play the role of the pilots to make it realistic with communications and radars.

"Overall, we can't accomplish the mission ourselves. The maintenance of equipment,

satellites and radar is one part. Everyone is an integral part of the real world and exercise scenarios. Any weak link can ruin the exercise or the mission," said Sorrentino.

One piece of the team is communications: both secure and non-secure in voice and data.

"Providing the backbone for SIPERNet (secure internet protocol) and NIPRNet (non-secure internet) tactical switch telephones and other forms of secure communications that our operations use," is one part of the communications described by Senior Master Sgt. John Nicholson, NCOIC of computers, networking, switching and cryptographics systems.

"It's not easy to make work, because it's complicated starting from the ground up. It's like building the first phone system in the world," Nicholson said.

"Communications can be different each time depending on who we are working with. The team sometimes has to create our own system depending on the situation."

Everything has to go to a central location that has to be dispersed around the unit

and patched to the right spot so that each phone or data link works right.

The "hub and spoke" is the normal operation where the 103<sup>d</sup> acts as the hub receiving information from other sources referred to as spokes, but this exercise is point-to-point since only two units participated.

The 103<sup>d</sup> always acts as the hub because of the equipment they have and because of the size of the 103<sup>d</sup> unit.

"We have the TSC100A satellite van that allows us to be a hub and larger telephone units TTC42 and the more powerful TTC39A," Nicholson said. "Also, we're a service provider for different communications items and they in turn provide us with an additional radar picture."

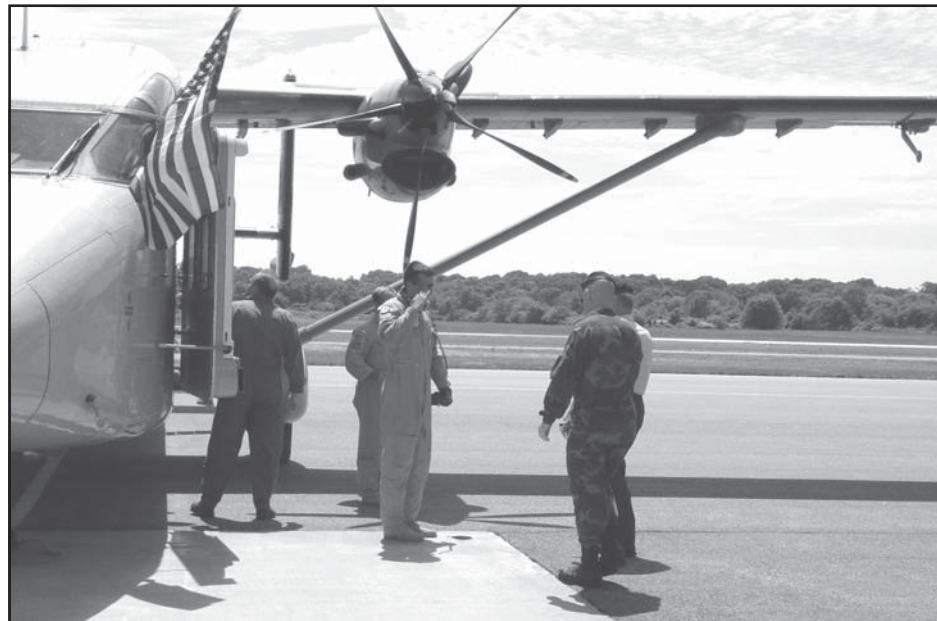
The 103<sup>d</sup> ACS had 35-members participate in the exercise.

"This is the closest thing to reality without using real aircraft. It's exactly how we would do things in the real world without the real planes" said Sorrentino.

"It really is a team and everyone really has to work together. They do a really good job at it."

## *Company I, 185th 'Sherpas' return from deployment*

*Photos courtesy of Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jay Bowdy*





# Record of Connecticut Men in the War of Rebellion

*Editor's Note: This is the eighthmonthly installment of the history of Connecticut's service in the Civil war, as published in the RECORD OF SERVICE OF CONNECTICUT MEN IN THE WAR OF REBELLION, 1861 TO 1865, from the History of the Second Connecticut Volunteers written by Gen. James B. Coit, Private IN Co. B. (Transcribed by Staff Sergeant Brett W. Wilson, Administrative Assistant to the USPFO for Connecticut)*

The Second Connecticut Light Battery was organized in the city of Bridgeport in the month of August, 1862, and was mustered into the United States service on the 10th of September of the same year "for three years or during the war."

The Battery left Camp Buckingham at Seaside Park on the 15th of October, 1862, for Washington, D. C., marching as far as New York city, and thence by rail, and went into camp at Bladensburgh Toll Gate. On the 12th of December following, the Battery marched to Fairfax Court House and joined the second brigade of General Casey's division under command of General Stoughton. Its first smell of gunpowder was in repelling a night attack of Stuart's cavalry at this place. In the latter part of January, 1863, the Battery was ordered to Wolf Run Shoals, where it remained until the 25th of June, guarding the "defenses of Washington." Here occurred many of the most pleasing incidents of its camp life. The camp was pleasantly located; but four men died. When the Army of the Potomac followed Lee into Maryland and Pennsylvania, the Battery was ordered, on June 25th, to the Artillery Reserve, Army of the Potomac, under command of General Tyler, joining it at Edwards Ferry and marching thence *via* Frederick City and Taneytown to Gettysburg. On leaving Wolf Run Shoals eleven hundred rounds of fixed ammunition were destroyed for want of transportation. On arriving at Gettysburg on the afternoon of Friday, the second day of the battle, the Battery was ordered into position to the left of the center, where the enemy made a bold but ineffectual attempt to break through our lines, and just as the gallant Sickles was being borne to the rear. The Battery was in position for fifty-six hours consecutively, and a portion of

Engagements

Gettysburg, PA., July 3, 1863.

Fort Gaines, Ala., Aug. 6, 1864.

Fort Morgan, Ala., Aug. 19, 1864.

Near Blakely, Ala., April 5 to 9, 1865.

Casualties Second C. V. Light Battery

Killed	Drowned	Died	Discharged disabled	Total
1	1	17	8	27

the time in the fiercest of the fight, yet it escaped, providentially, without the loss of a man and with only three slightly wounded. The Battery lost but three horses, and one caisson exploded by the enemy's shell. On the 5th of July the Battery left Gettysburg for Frederick City, reaching there on the 6th and remaining there until the 18th, encamped with the Seventh New York State Militia. From thence the Battery went to Washington, reaching there on the 20th, and went into camp at Camp Barry. On the 18th of August the Battery embarked at Alexandria for New York to aid in enforcing the draft. Reaching New York on the 22d, it went into camp in the City Hall Park, and from thence sections of the Battery were sent to East New York, Troy, Albany, Kingston, and Tarrytown. Up to this date the Battery had lost five men by death, six by desertion, fifteen by discharge, and fifteen were sick in hospital. After the draft in New York had taken place the Battery returned to Camp Barry, remaining there until ordered to the Department of the Gulf. On the 24th of January, 1864, the Battery proceeded to Baltimore, and on the 27th of January embarked on the steamship "Arago" for New Orleans, reaching there on the night of the 5th of February, and going into camp at Algiers. On the 1st of March the Battery was ordered to Brashear City, where it remained until June 17th, with one section a portion of the time at Thibodeaux, when it returned to Algiers. On the 30th of July the Battery left Algiers for Dauphin Island, Mobile Harbor, under command of Lieutenant Hotchkiss, leaving

the Black Swamp. After crossing Pine Barren Creek it came upon a rebel brigade under command of Brig. - General Clanton, who was captured, with upwards of one hundred prisoners, the rest escaping across the Escambia River and burning the bridge after them. The next day Pollard was visited and found to be evacuated, and passing around the head of Perdido River the Battery struck the stage road to Blakeley. On the morning of the 2d of April rebel skirmishers were encountered in the vicinity of Blakeley and pursued into their fortifications. Our lines were gradually drawn closer until the 9th of April, when the enemy's works were charged upon and captured, and the last grand battle of the war was fought, and on the very day of Lee's surrender at Appomattox Court House. Our loss was one man blown up by a torpedo in going to the fort as a spectator just after the fort was taken. On the 20th the Battery took transports for Mobile, and the next day started up the Alabama River, going to Selma, reaching there on the 27th and remaining until the 12th of May, when a return was made to Mobile. In July came the order for the Battery to return to Connecticut to be mustered out. The Battery was turned over to the United States Quartermaster; the men went to New Orleans and soon after sailed for New York, and on the 9th day of August, 1865, were mustered out at New Haven. During the three years the Battery traveled or marched about six thousand miles. 387 horses were drawn. On leaving Washington 87 were turned over to the quartermaster and 95 on leaving Mobile, thus using up in the three years 205. The Battery entered the service with the James Rifle, but exchanged it for the three-inch ordnance rifle-gun on going to the Department of the Gulf. It is a remarkable circumstance that during its three years of active service not a member of the Battery was killed in battle.

Captain Sterling in the hospital. On August 3d we reached Dauphin Island, and on the 5th participated in the attack upon Fort Gaines in the rear, while Admiral Farragut led his fleet into Mobile Bay, passing Fort Gaines and Fort Morgan, and attacked and captured the rebel ram "Tennessee." The Battery witnessed the surrender of Fort Gaines, and on the 20th crossed to the rear of Fort Morgan and assisted in the bombardment of that stronghold. For twenty-four hours shot and shell poured in upon the fort from land and sea. The citadel was set on fire in the night, and at early dawn a white flag signaled the surrender. On the 28th the Battery crossed Mobile Bay to Cedar Point, and on the 10th of September returned to Algiers. On the 19th the Battery left Algiers and went into winter quarters on St. Charles Street in New Orleans. On the 15th of November the Battery was ordered to the mouth of the White River and went into camp there on the 20th. On the 19th of January, 1865, it left White River and went into camp at Kennerville, ten miles above New Orleans, and remained there until the 10th of February, when it was ordered to Greenville. On the 19th it broke camp at midnight and before daylight the next morning was at Hickock's Landing on Lake Pontchartrain, where the Battery was dismounted and transported to Fort Morgan, arriving there on the 22d. On the 26th it sailed for Barancas and remained there until the 11th of March, when it marched to Pensacola. On the 20th of March the Battery commenced its march to Blakeley, through

## Attention Soldiers, Airmen and Families

### The Connecticut Guardian wants your photos!

If you have photos you wish to share with the rest of our Guard family, we would like to publish them in the Guardian. We are looking for photos of soldiers and airmen who are deployed either relaxing or working. We are looking for photos of familiy members at home or at play. We are looking for photos of families packing care packages to send to their loved ones. We will print them in the Guardian as space allows so they can be seen and shared by Connecticut Soldiers, Airmen and families around the world. Please e-mail your photos to [ctguardian@ct.ngb.army.mil](mailto:ctguardian@ct.ngb.army.mil)



# Army develops policy to address acts of sexual assault

SGT. 1<sup>ST</sup> CLASS MARCIA TRIGGS  
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

The Army is devising a policy that will re-emphasize that all offenses of sexual assault must be reported to the Criminal Investigation Command, officials have announced.

A task force spent 90 days conducting a detailed review of the Army's current policies and programs on sexual assault. One of the findings was that while all commanders had taken action against assailants accused of sexual assault, not all were going through the proper investigation channels, said Darlene Sullivan, a task force member.

The task force was assembled from various Army organizations and began looking into how the Army addresses matters of sexual assault in February. Acting Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee authorized the task force.

The task force recommendations were approved by Brownlee, and were briefed to the House Armed Services Committee June 3 by Reginald J. Brown, the assistant secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs.

There were nine shortfalls the task force noted in its 80-page report. One major finding pointed out there was no standard way of handling sexual assault cases, making it hard to collect data and keep track of what services had been rendered to victims.

There were 24 recommendations made to improve the system. One was to develop a sexual assault policy for inclusion in Army Regulation 600-20, Army Command Policy.

The chief of personnel, Army G-1 is responsible for the overall sexual assault policy.

The policy will define sexual assault as alleged offenses of rape, forcible sodomy, assault with intent to commit rape or sodomy, indecent assault or an attempt to commit any of these offenses, Sullivan said. The definition is the same one used by the Department of Defense in its recent report "Care for Victims of Sexual Assault."

The roles and responsibilities of commanders from major command to the unit level will be addressed in the new policy and become a part of AR 600-20, said Lt. Col. John McPhaul of Army G-1.

"Commanders must create a command climate where victims feel comfortable reporting acts of sexual assault," said Sullivan. "Rape is one of the most unreported crimes nationwide."

"As a first sergeant, if you don't know your Soldier was attacked or raped, how can you protect that Soldier? What if you put that Soldier on guard duty with his or her attacker?"

It's imperative that leaders know that prevention, training and assistance are a commander's responsibility."

Company commanders will no longer have the authority to sign the disciplinary paperwork for Soldiers who are accused of a sexual offense, when the cases don't go to court. The battalion commander's signature will be required, Sullivan said.

Department of the Army form 4833, Commander's Report of Disciplinary or Administrative Action, is a permanent record that states what a Soldier was accused of,

and what action was taken against him.

Sullivan said the task force found that about 20 percent of the commanders had not filled out the form because of operational tempo. Another recommendation of the task force is to alter the form, so that instead of stating that administrative action was taken against a Soldier, his or her specific punishments will be listed on the form.

Commanders alone cannot round out a successful program to prevent sexual assault, according to the task force. Commanders alone cannot be the judge, juror and prosecutor.

In AR 600-20 one of the responsibilities commanders will have is to assign a unit victim advocate to support victims of sexual assault. It is important to keep the victim and the chain of command informed of all case actions as they occur with the case.

The unit victim advocate will work to provide emotional support to victims while assisting them in the step-by-step processes involved, McPhaul said.

Other agencies whose roles will be outlined in the chapter will include CID, the Provost Marshal, the Surgeon General, Staff Judge Advocate and Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management (Community and Family Support Center), McPhaul said.

"The Army agencies already have some procedures in place and know what to do, and are doing it, if an act of sexual assault occurs," McPhaul said, "but we must develop comprehensive policy of dealing with sexual assault from awareness/prevention, to victim support and data collection."

"We are developing a mechanism that gets all the agencies in concert with each other by establishing a policy that deals with sexual

assault not only in garrison but in a deployed setting as well," McPhaul said.

Training requirements will also be addressed in the regulation, McPhaul said.

Within the next 60 to 90 days, new chapters will be added to the regulation and staffed with the field, he added.

Training and Doctrine Command is currently devising lesson plans on the prevention of sexual assault to be included in all professional development schools, refresher courses at the unit level and additional training for law enforcement, medical and legal personnel, Sullivan said.

When looking for ways to improve the Army's policies and programs, the task force sought advice from outside agencies to include Department of Veteran Affairs; National Organization of Victim Assistance; Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network (RAINN); The MILES Foundation, Navy, Coast Guard and the University of Arizona and Purdue University in Indiana.

Both universities were given grants from the Department of Justice for their prevention programs, Sullivan said.

The age category for the Soldiers who report the assaults and their assailants are in the same age category as the university students, she added.

Nearly 84 percent of alleged perpetrators were identified as junior Soldiers, and 95 percent of the victims were in the rank of staff sergeant and below, according to the task force report.

## *Soldiers, employees to reap benefits of software deal*

COURTNEY HICKSON  
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

Computer savvy Soldiers and Army employees can now increase their software collections a little easier with help from the Army Small Computer Program's Employee Purchase Program.

The ASCP expanded its program by increasing the products available for purchase by including Microsoft software. Soldiers can now buy Microsoft products at discounted rates.

Microsoft was selected to be available through the EPP in conjunction with the Army's Microsoft Enterprise License Agreement, created last year.

This announcement was made in the Army's Chief Information Officer's executive board meeting on June 16.

The ASCP allows Soldiers and their families, National Guard members, Reservists and civilian employees to buy personal computers and software at discounted rates.

"It is open to the whole community," Cynthia Dixon of CIO said. "All Soldiers as well as the DA (Department of the Army) community."

According to Dixon, the software available for purchase includes Microsoft Office 2003, Windows XP, FrontPage 2003 and Microsoft Publisher. For home and personal use Digital

Image Pro, MS Press book, X-Box games, fun and games software developmental tools software are also available.

Microsoft is not the only company offering specials.

"It is in mixed company," Dixon said.

The program includes Apple, Dell, IBM, Hewlett Packard, Micron and Microsoft. Products available to buy range from top-of-the-line desktops and notebooks to I-Pods, digital cameras and printers.

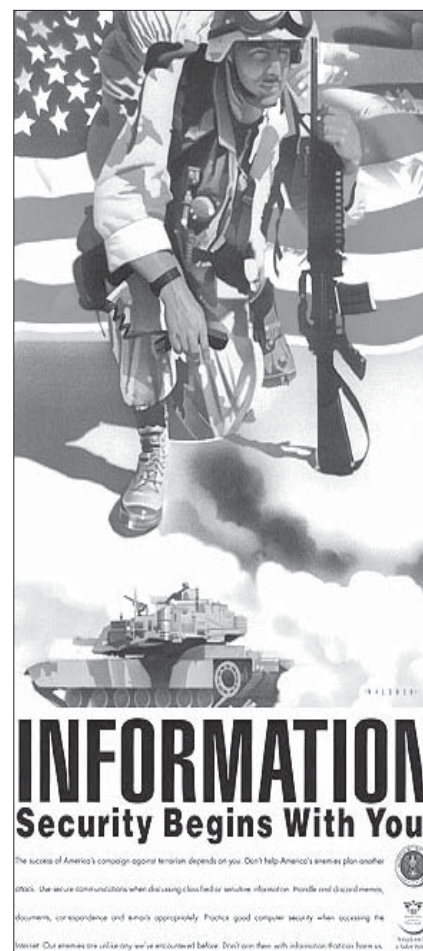
Dell has deals for EPP, including special shipping for Soldiers located overseas. Additionally, there is a Dell provides monthly flyer which gives coupon codes.

Apple also provides a monthly highlight of products for employees. The HP Web site shows the percent of savings of buying a product with the EPP.

One of the tips Dixon offered for Soldiers and their families interested in buying through the ASCP is to shop around before investing in a product.

She also said prices can vary because of the ever-changing technology market. Additionally all information needed to order through the ASCP is available on the Web site, <https://ascp.monmouth.army.mil>.

To participate in the EPP through ASCP, buyers need an AKO e-mail account and verification of being employed by the Army.





# Rell sworn in as state's 87<sup>th</sup>

PFC. JORDAN E. WERME  
65<sup>th</sup> PCH

"A few moments ago, I raised my right hand, humbled in spirit and with hopefulness in my heart, to take the oath of office as governor of the state of Connecticut. It is not a position I sought through the normal course of electoral politics, but little has seemed normal over the past several months."

And so began M. Jody Rell's governorship.

In a ceremony held July 1 on the north steps of the State Capital in Hartford, the former lieutenant governor was sworn in as Connecticut's 87<sup>th</sup> governor.

Hundreds of onlookers - military, civilian and members of the press - gathered to witness the ascent of Rell to the state's highest seat.

A bright summer sun helped to remove the shadows previously cast on the Governor's office by allegations of corruption within the administration of Gov. John Rowland, whose resignation announcement in June led the way to Rell's appointment as his replacement.

Rell promises that her first act as Governor will be to implement stronger and more enforceable ethics standards on those in public office.

"We must and we will recommit ourselves to ending the culture of corruption that has plagued our state for far too long," she said.

"To that end, my first order of business as the 87<sup>th</sup> governor of Connecticut is to issue Executive Order number one, which imposes strict ethics restraints on those who serve in government.

"Let the message be heard clear," she said, "From this day forward, if you are entrusted with public office, you will uphold the highest standards of public integrity and ethical principles."

Among the chief concerns for Rell's administration will be restoring the honor and dignity to Connecticut's Governor's office.

"Today we chart a new course," she said. "Today we begin to restore faith, integrity and honor to our government. It is our solemn obligation. It will be our lasting legacy."

While change is certainly on the horizon with the appointment of a new leader, Rell acknowledges that the circumstances surrounding these forthcoming changes are not ideal.

"Few could have accurately predicted the incredible, seemingly unrelenting, series of events that have led to today's actions," she said.

"It has been a time of profound disappointment and disillusionment. It has been a moment in history that we never thought we would see, and fervently hope we never see again."

Gov. Rell has held the office of Connecticut's Lieutenant Governor since 1994, and is no stranger to the state's political climate.

During her tenure as lieutenant governor, Rell was involved in numerous campaigns ranging from raising money to improve technology in schools and providing funding to increase the safety and effectiveness of the state's fire departments, to honoring World War II veterans and acknowledging women's rolls in the state's military history.

Rell is a long-time, staunch supporter of Connecticut's military. Her involvement in the 2003 "Operation Elf" was instrumental in providing support to the thousands of military dependents whose family members were called to action overseas.

"I deeply believe that public service is a noble and necessary cause," she said. "For generations, indeed for more than two centuries, well-intentioned, virtuous men and women have served our state well."

With the near entirety of Connecticut's military forces home from harm's way, the new Captain-General can greet her nearly 5,000 Army and Air National Guard servicemembers as they continue to defend their state and nation.



The Connecticut Army National Guard provided a 19-gun salute for Gov. Rell's inauguration. (Photo by Spc. Jesse J. Stanley, 65<sup>th</sup> PCH)



# governor: Promises change



Gov. M. Jodi Rell is escorted up the stairs to her office in the State Capitol after taking the oath of office by Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Adjutant General. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PA NCO)



Chloe Zampaglione leads the Pledge of Allegiance while her step-father, PFC William Zampaglione stand next to her. (Photo by Spc. Jesse J. Stanley, 65th PCH)

## *A Message for Executive Branch Employees*

At 12 noon today (July 1), I was sworn in as Governor of the state of Connecticut.

As one of my first orders of business on this, my first day on the job,

I wanted to share my thoughts with everyone who works for the Executive Branch and its agencies.

We now have a historic opportunity to restore public trust and confidence in our state government. Working together, we can prove that state government is important, that we can manage our government with the highest standards of ethics and integrity and that we can efficiently deliver programs and services that people want and need.

I've been in public service almost 20 years, first as a state legislator, then as Lieutenant Governor and now as Governor. During this time, I've seen first-hand the tremendous contributions all of you are making — everyday — to the lives of people across this state.

I thank you for your dedication and commitment. And I look forward to working with all of you to give Connecticut a state government of which we can all be proud.

Sincerely,

M. Jodi Rell  
Governor



Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Adjutant General, escorts M. Jodi Rell and her husband, Louis, through the honor cordon of Connecticut National Guardsmen, Connecticut Militia and Connecticut State Police prior to her inauguration as the 87th governor of Connecticut. (Photo by OC Claude Hibbert, CTARNG)



## Retroactive reimbursement for R & R leave participants approved

The U.S. Army announced June 29 that service members who traveled on Rest and Recuperation leave while deployed in support of Operations Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom during the period 25 Sep-18 Dec 03, may be eligible for reimbursement of airline costs.

Payment of onward travel airline costs for R&R Leave Program participants was approved 19 Dec 03. Authorization was granted on 21 Jun 04 to implement retroactive reimbursement for those individuals who paid out-of-pocket for onward commercial airline travel during the period 25 Sep-18 Dec 03. Eligible personnel are military R&R participants who paid for their onward travel airline tickets from the Aerial Port of Debarkation they flew into from overseas, such as Baltimore-Washington International Airport, to their final leave destination.

According to Army records, approximately 40,000 service members traveled during the period of eligibility, and thus should file a claim with DFAS. Every attempt is being made to ensure those eligible for reimbursement are informed of their

eligibility and given instructions on claiming any monies owed them.

More information for those who believe they qualify is available on the CENTCOM R&R Leave Program Web site at: [www.armyg1.army.mil/WellBeing/RRLeave](http://www.armyg1.army.mil/WellBeing/RRLeave)

For more information about the Rest and Recuperation (R&R) Leave Program, media may contact G-1 Public Affairs, at (703) 696-5207/696-5205. This document is available on Army Link, a World Wide Web site on the Internet at <http://www4.army.mil/ocpa/press/index.php>. For updates and additional information on the CENTCOM R&R Leave Program, visit the Web site at: <http://www.armyg1.army.mil/WellBeing/RRLeave/index.HTM>

Service members with claims can email vouchers to:

DFAS-INR&RLEAVE@DFAS.mil

or mail vouchers to:

DSFAS-IN CONTINGENCY TVL, Dept 3900, ATTN: R&R Retroactive Leave, 8899 E. 56th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46249-3900

## Charge card scam alert

The following information concerning Subject Scam has been received from the National Guard Bureau Charge Card Manager:

The current scam involves a false employee of the credit card company contacting cardholders with an alert to a false fraudulent charge on their accounts.

The caller will seem legitimate, often having personal information such as the cardholder's name and address.

he caller usually does not directly ask for the credit card number, but instead falsely assures the cardholder that he will credit their account for this supposed fraudulent charge, provided the cardholder will verify his account by giving the caller the seven digit number on the back of the card near the signature.

DO NOT give this information; the last three digits is the PIN number of the credit card account.

With this PIN number, the scammer can charge unauthorized purchases to the cardholder's account. INSTEAD, cardholders should call the credit card company directly to investigate all possible fraud and to report this scam.

Cardholders should NEVER provide ANY information to someone who contacts them. If they think it may be legitimate, they should make contact with the bank at the phone number on the back of the card first, and only converse with Customer Service about their account.

At no time will the bank ask for information they already have. If they are asking for account or card information, it is a scam and should be reported immediately.

The POC for this matter is Lt. Col. Francis X. Walsh at [francis.walsh@ct.ngb.army.mil](mailto:francis.walsh@ct.ngb.army.mil) or (860) 524-4881.

## Officers Club of Connecticut

### July Events

**Tuesday, July 13**

Ladies O'Club Breakfast  
8 a.m.

**Thursday, July 15**

Reserve Officers Association  
5 to 7 p.m.

Board of Governors

5:30 p.m.

**Thursday, May 20**

Board of Governor's Meeting  
5:30 p.m.

**Saturday, July 17**

Air Guard Dinner  
6 p.m.

**Monday, July 19**

House Committee Meeting  
2:30 p.m.

**Bar and Lounge open daily at lunch and from 4 p.m. to....**

**Club open for lunch daily from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Welcome our new chef, Saul Brown.**

**To book a party or event, call (860) 249-3624**

COME AND CELEBRATE THE RETURN OF



**FREE ADMISSION**

**FREE FOOD**

**CONNECTICUT  
NATIONAL GUARD DAY**

at Dodd Stadium, Norwich, CT

Sunday, July 18, 2004

2:00 pm Arrival & picnic

**5:00 pm ceremony** recognizing  
Connecticut National Guard Troops

**5:30 pm Norwich Navigators**

**vs. Bowie Baysox**

**Fireworks**

following the game

**FREE ADMISSION**

**FREE FOOD**

COME & TAKE PART  
IN THE CELEBRATION!

For your **FREE** tickets contact your Unit Full-Time Support  
Personnel or your local Family Assistance Center at  
1-800-858-2677





# Customs of Military Funerals reflect history, tradition

JOHN D. BANUSIEWICZ  
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

The images are imprinted already, with more to come.

When President John F. Kennedy was assassinated more than 40 years ago, television was able to bring the nation together in mourning as it had never been brought together before. For the first time on such a scale, people could see history as it unfolded without having to be there themselves. For anyone who experienced Nov. 22-25, 1963, the memories of the sights and sounds remain vivid.

Now, with exponentially more advanced technology bringing Americans more intimately and clearly into the national

observance of former President Ronald Reagan's death, no detail will go undocumented and no distance will separate observers from participants. And among the memories of this unprecedented week will be the customs and rituals of the military honors bestowed upon the fallen commander in chief.

Prominent among these is Reagan's flag-draped casket. The blue field of the flag is placed at the head of the casket, over the left shoulder of the deceased. The custom began in the Napoleonic Wars of the late 18th and early 19th centuries, when a flag was used to cover the dead as they were taken from the battlefield on a caisson.

Though all six horses pulling the caisson that bore Reagan's body to the Capitol were

saddled, the three on the left side had riders, while the three on the right did not. That custom evolved from the days when horse-drawn caissons were the primary means of moving artillery ammunition and cannon, and the riderless horses carried provisions.

The single riderless horse that followed the caisson with boots reversed in the stirrups is called the "caparisoned horse" in reference to its ornamental coverings, which have a detailed protocol all to themselves. By tradition in military funeral honors, a caparisoned horse follows the casket of an Army or Marine Corps officer who was a colonel or above, or the casket of a president, by virtue of having been the nation's military commander in chief.

The custom is believed to date back to the time of Genghis Khan, when a horse was sacrificed to serve the fallen warrior in the next world. The caparisoned horse later came to symbolize a warrior who would ride no more. Abraham Lincoln, who was killed in 1865, was the first U.S. president to be honored with a caparisoned horse at his funeral.

Graveside military honors include the firing of three volleys each by seven service members. This commonly is confused with an entirely separate honor, the 21-gun salute. But the number of individual gun firings in both honors evolved the same way.

The three volleys came from an old battlefield custom. The two warring sides would cease hostilities to clear their dead from the battlefield, and the firing of three volleys meant that the dead had been properly cared for and the side was ready to resume the battle.

The 21-gun salute traces its roots to the Anglo-Saxon empire, when seven guns constituted a recognized naval salute, as most naval vessels had seven guns. Because gunpowder in those days could be more easily stored on land than at sea, guns on land could fire three rounds for every one that could be fired by a ship at sea.

Later, as gunpowder and storage methods improved, salutes at sea also began using 21 guns. The United States at first used one round for each state, attaining the 21-gun salute by 1818. The nation reduced its salute to 21 guns in 1841, and formally adopted the 21-gun salute at the suggestion of the British in 1875.

Arlington National Cemetery follows an "order of arms" protocol to determine the number of guns to be used in a salute. A president, ex-president or foreign head of state is saluted with 21 guns. A vice president, prime minister, secretary of defense or secretary of the Army receives a 19-gun salute. Flag officers receive salutes of 11 to 17 guns, depending on their rank. The rounds are fired one at a time.

A U.S. presidential death also involves other ceremonial gun salutes and military

traditions. On the day after the death of the president, a former president or president-elect — unless this day falls on a Sunday or holiday, in which case the honor will be rendered the following day — the commanders of Army installations with the necessary personnel and material traditionally order that one gun be fired every half hour, beginning at reveille and ending at retreat.

On the day of burial, a 21-minute gun salute traditionally is fired starting at noon at all military installations with the necessary personnel and material. Guns will be fired at one-minute intervals. Also on the day of burial, those installations will fire a 50-gun salute — one round for each state — at five-second intervals immediately following lowering of the flag.

The playing of "Ruffles and Flourishes" announces the arrival of a flag officer or other dignitary of honor. Drums play the ruffles, and bugles play the flourishes — one flourish for each star of the flag officer's rank or as appropriate for the honoree's position or title. Four flourishes is the highest honor.

When played for a president, "Ruffles and Flourishes" is followed by "Hail to the Chief," which is believed to have been written in England in 1810 or 1811 by James Sanderson for a play by Sir Walter Scott called "The Lady of the Lake." The play began to be performed in the United States in 1812, the song became popular, and it became a favorite of bands at festive events. It evolved to be used as a greeting for important visitors, and eventually for the president, though no record exists of when it was first put to that use.

The bugle call "Taps" originated in the Civil War with the Army of the Potomac. Union Army Brig. Gen. Daniel Butterfield didn't like the bugle call that signaled soldiers in the camp to put out the lights and go to sleep, and worked out the melody of "Taps" with his brigade bugler, Pvt. Oliver Wilcox Norton. The call later came into another use as a figurative call to the sleep of death for soldiers.

Another military honor dates back only to the 20th century. The missing-man formation usually is a four-aircraft formation with the No. 3 aircraft either missing or performing a pull-up maneuver and leaving the formation to signify a lost comrade in arms. F-15 Strike Eagles from the 4th Fighter Wing, Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C., performed the maneuver in Reagan's honor during the caisson procession to the Capitol June 9.

Reagan was buried with full military honors at his presidential library in Simi Valley Calif., June 11.

(Information from Web pages of the Military District of Washington and Arlington National Cemetery was used in this article.)



Washington D.C. (June 09, 2004) Members from the Armed Forces Guard of Honor transfer former President Ronald Reagan's casket from a hearse to a caisson during a historic ceremony held in the Nation's Capital. (Official U.S. Navy Photo by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Air Warfare Samuel Shavers, assigned to Fleet Combat Camera, Atlantic)



Symbolic of a fallen leader who will never ride again, the Caparisoned horse is led down Constitution Ave. following the Caisson carrying the body of former U.S. President Ronald Reagan during his procession to the Capitol Rotunda where his body laid in state for public viewing until Friday June 11, 2004. (Official U.S. Navy Photo by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class Aaron Peterson, assigned to Fleet Combat Camera, Atlantic)



# Military Matters



**Connecticut  
National Guard  
Soldier-Airman  
Support Center**

Supporting Guard Members  
And Their Families

## *AGR Tour Branch to conduct Tour Continuation Boards for most members*

In Accordance with NGB (AR) 600-5, 20 February 2004 all Active Guard/Reserve full time personnel must go through a tour continuation board after three years of active service and every five years thereafter (Paragraph 5-1).

The purpose of these boards is to ensure the highest quality Soldiers are maintained in the AGR program to meet the needs of the CTARNG. A review of NCOER/OER's is completed in accordance with TAG guidance in order to select Soldiers for

continuation on the program.

A review of the records in the AGR Tour branch has found that many of the Soldiers have not been in front of a board in the last five years.

Therefore, this October, there will be four separate AGR Tour continuation boards in order to consider full time personnel for continuation in the program.

There will be two officer boards and two enlisted boards, one to consider all personnel who are on their initial tour, and one for those

after five years.

Each Soldier affected will receive a letter from the AGR Tour Branch no later than the end of July. This will give the soldier the opportunity to update their record prior to the board. The board is a records only board; no personal appearances will be authorized.

If soldiers have any questions or concerns, they may contact either Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Trayner at 878-6729 or Staff Sgt. Mackenzie at 878-6727.

## Education Essentials: GI Bill still important 30 years later

RUDI WILLIAMS  
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Times were tough. The nation was slowly emerging from the Great Depression when World War II flared up in 1941.

Before the war, the unemployment rate hovered at 15 percent, more than 11 million homes didn't have running water or electricity, and fewer than 50,000 taxpayers earned more than \$2,500 a year, according to Census Bureau statistics.

After the war, thousands of Americans were flocking to colleges and vocational schools, buying homes, farms and businesses — all thanks to the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, which became known simply as the GI Bill. President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the bill into law 30 years ago.

Passing the GI Bill brought more than 16 million veterans into a peacetime economy. Since it provided education and home ownership opportunities to millions, some dubbed the bill the "Magic Carpet to the Middle Class."

Historians say the GI Bill contributed more than any other program in history to the welfare of veterans and their families and to the growth of the nation's economy. The bill is credited with preventing a post-war relapse into the pre-war Depression.

Its social impact is still felt today, noted retired Navy Vice Adm. Daniel L. Cooper, undersecretary of veterans affairs for benefits.

"Several bills were proposed between 1942 and 1944 that were debated and held up," Cooper said. "But finally, the American Legion jumped in, sat down and wrote the first draft in a hotel room. The American Legion pushed very hard to ensure that a bill did get written and passed. After going through a lot of debate, it passed with a large majority."

Cooper said one primary reason for the bill was to help millions of young veterans readjust to civilian life.

"Another reason was to ensure that the entire nation's economy wasn't hurt by the large influx of kids coming back from overseas," he noted, "and to ensure that veterans were not held back because of their military service and that they were recognized for the service they'd given to the country."

He said today's GI Bill benefits are built upon what was done in 1944 — and improved and increased over the years.

"The benefits then had to do with education and home and business loans, as well as unemployment payments for the first year they came back," Cooper noted. "Today, we cover a wider range of benefits for the same purposes."

During the past six decades, the GI Bill has made possible the investment of billions of dollars in education and training for millions of veterans. The nation has in return earned many times investment in increased taxes and a dramatically changed society, according to Cooper.

He also pointed out that the bill also made possible the loan of billions of dollars to purchases homes for millions of veterans and helped transform America from a nation of renters to a nation of homeowners.

"All the writings that I've seen about the GI Bill say it had a very strong social effect in establishing a strong middle class within the country," Cooper said.

The first GI Bill provided six benefits, three of which the VA administered: education and training; loan guaranty for a home, farm or business; and unemployment pay of \$20 a week for up to 52 weeks. The other benefits were job-finding assistance, top priority for building materials for VA hospitals and military review of dishonorable discharges the undersecretary noted.

Cooper said the GI Bill is still a huge benefit to American society.

"Last year, we had more than 400,000 men and women in college getting an advanced education as a result of our educational benefit," he said. "Similarly, last year we

processed more than 450,000 loans, the third largest number of loans we have in the history of the GI Bill. Many of those loans were refinances because of lower interest rates."

The amount paid to veterans per month has increased "quite a bit," Cooper said. The 1986 Montgomery GI Bill required service members to pay in about \$100 per month for 12 months.

"However, three years ago," he noted, "the benefit they got was \$600 per month for 36 months. As of Oct. 1, 2003, that (monthly) benefit increased to \$985, ... up \$385 in the last three years."

Unfortunately, a large number of veterans who paid into the Montgomery GI Bill don't use it. Cooper said it's "not something you can generally attribute to a single factor."

"Our job is to ensure that they understand that they've paid into the bill," he said. "We even send them letters about it while they're still in the service."

The importance of today's GI Bill to American society is probably more important to individuals because a college education is so important, Cooper said.

"As far as the total effect on our economy, the first one (in 1944) was of major importance," he continued. "So I wouldn't want to try to compare the two. But the importance to the veteran is beyond question."

Cooper said he has read books unrelated to the GI Bill that talks to the maximum social effect that the bill had in 1944.

"It made a vital difference in the basic structure of our country," he said. "Therefore, the greatness of it socially can't be underestimated."

"Today our job is to do everything we can to ensure that we have the best benefits we can for our service people," Cooper said. "This is one of the real benefits."

## Connecticut IG announces Assistant IG Course

COL. HARVEY G. SOEFER  
INSPECTOR GENERAL

The first Assistant Inspector General Course will be conducted in Newington, Conn. 14-15 August 2004.

After several meetings with the Adjutant General concerning deployed guardsman and their families, I proposed the establishment and integration of an Assistant Inspector General, a trained senior NCO or Officer, at every battalion.

This program would create an expanded IG network that would provide each battalion commander with a locally trained individual who could directly coordinate or provide assistance as required for unit members and dependents.

The assistant IGs are limited to assistance only and will not be qualified to perform inquiries or investigations. These will be performed by the state IG. The assistant IGs will work for their battalion commander but receive policy, guidance and oversight from the State IG.

The first course will be conducted on the weekend of 14-15 August at the State IG office in Newington, Conn. The course has gained visibility at The Inspector General University (TIGU) as a first amongst the state guards and has been positively endorsed. The Commandant of TIGU, Col. Newton, was so thrilled with this idea that he will be instructing much of the course. Newton said that placing an AIG at the battalion level would be used as a Beta test which, if successful, may be implemented in other states.

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CHIEF MASTER SGT.  
WANDA WAWRUCK

## Enlisted Update Safety

Summer fun has begun and many have enjoyed vacations, barbecues, and many outdoor activities. This time of year, our Armed Forces leaders publish many summer safety notices and tips for personal risk management. This month's article is focused on an area that is of high concern — Motorcycle Safety. Whether you ride a motorcycle or not, I'm sure you will find this information helpful for a friend, family member or colleague.

During fiscal year 2003, The Army and Air Force reported a combined total of 26 motorcycle fatalities — 26 too many! In reviewing portions of these reports, all 26 were due to lack of personal risk management, common sense or the need for speed. In our military training, we practice organizational risk management every time we perform a task or function. We should apply the same discipline in our personal lives, but sometimes we neglect these simple measures because we simply lose focus.

Motorcycles are a great source of fun, transportation and social activity, however, you must remain more aware of your surroundings, operate within the boundaries of your abilities and wear proper attire.

For experienced riders, we ask that you get out and mentor a novice rider as you would a new Soldier or Airmen in the organization. Sharing your knowledge or perhaps recommending support organizations such as clubs and courses can go a long way in developing new and old riders.

Commanders, Chiefs, Sergeant Majors, First Sergeants and first line supervisors should also have an awareness of organizations, courses and basic attire to encourage their member's participation in on or off-duty safety.

Here are some helpful guidelines pulled

from many military safety sources. In addition, you may obtain similar tips from the Motor Vehicle Department. As a novice rider myself, I can attest that I live and ride by these guidelines and always follow my mentors' advice. I look forward to seeing fellow riders on the road and appreciate our leaders' assistance in encouraging our members to ride safely.

1. Get Trained — Whether you're a new rider or experienced rider, there's always room for improvement. Many self-taught riders have found that they were performing improper and risky functions. For information on training in your area, call (800) 446-9227 or [www.msf-usa.org](http://www.msf-usa.org).

2. Ride Sober — Recent data confirms that alcohol is involved in almost half of single-vehicle motorcycle crashes. If you are on prescription, over-the counter medication or drinking alcohol, don't ride — the affects diminish visual capabilities and judgment.

3. Get Licensed — Ensure you have a proper license to operate your motorcycle. Check with the Motor Vehicle Department for specifics on obtaining a license.

4. Ride Responsibly — Wear riding gear for both comfort and protection. This includes a helmet manufactured to meet Department of Transportation standards, eye protection, long sleeved shirt or jacket, full-fingered gloves, long pants and over-the ankle boots. Keep your bike well maintained. Do not take passengers until you gain the experience and capabilities to maneuver the bike as a single rider. Use your "rider radar" when riding to scan for hazards — anticipate the unexpected and be ready to react. Use the three-step process: A — C — T: Assess the risk; Consider your options; and Take appropriate action.

You may have noticed that most of the tips mentioned in this article can be easily applied to driving any type of motor vehicle. So please take the time to drive safely and stay within the boundaries of your abilities.

## Guard Voices

### *An open letter from one man serving in Afghanistan on the birthday of our nation Independence day*

This day is one of the most anticipated days of the year, with fireworks sounding off the beginning of summer. It is a joyous day, but also one of reflection on how blessed we are as Americans.

The 4th of July is not only the birth date of our great nation, but also the beginning of American patriotism and the love of freedom. The first display of American patriotism was recorded for history when 56 men pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor in a small hall in Philadelphia. They did so fully knowing the consequences that would certainly befall them. These 56 men had achieved a level of personal and financial security in their lives, but valued the principles of freedom more. In the war that soon followed some of these brave men gave their lives, most all lost their possessions, but all preserved their sacred honor.

During our country's storied history, we as a nation, and the world at large, have learned that there is no weapon made by man that can suppress the will and moral courage of free men and women. A great American once said:

We will always remember,  
We will always be proud,  
We will always be prepared,  
So that we may always be free.

These words should be taught to our children, for Ronald Reagan's expression rings true today more than ever.

Just nine days after the unmistakable challenge to freedom, our fine President, George Bush, spoke before a joint session of Congress, and to the American people. The President was strong and firm, justice will triumph, and freedom will prevail. The President assured the world and us that the United States of America had the resolve in this, a call to defense of freedom.

One cannot be passive in his or her convictions. The President has called us to action and the men and women of your Armed Forces have answered that call. We know the sacrifices, we know the cost, but like those 56 men 228 years earlier, we do it with honor and for the love of freedom. We do not do so lightly, we know the lessons of the past, we will not forget the heinous acts against innocent civilians on September 11.

So I say to you:

We know the struggles,  
We know the dangers,

But we also know that times like these define men and our Nation.

We, the men of the 3rd battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group, Afghanistan, are up to the challenge and will not let you down. We will do our part in the defense of Freedom.

MAJ. MICHAEL O'CONNOR  
TF 33

### *Public perception was not what we expected*

It was Memorial Day morning and a group of us were waiting to march in a parade.

Stories of former parades were remembered. The beer cans and bottles being thrown at the military for instance. What would be the public reaction from the Abu Ghraib incident? A comment then was made, "would someone take a pot-shot at us." The anxiety of the group grew a bit, but we all knew our responsibility to those who have served and fallen.

As we prepared to line-up for the parade, an A-10 fly-over came. It was just as thrilling as the first time we saw a fly-over. We joked, but the thoughts of the earlier conversation still lingered.

The bands started and slowly we began to move. The struggle to get into step diverted the thoughts. Then we could see the parade spectators lining the street on both sides several people deep.

This parade was better attended than seen in previous years. It was good to see on this day of National Pride.

Then the crowd's eyes met our small sea of BDU's. A moment that stood still and silent erupted in the people rising to their feet with a standing ovation. As we marched the entire parade route, the wave of people young and

old rising to their feet for us, the applause and the shouts of "Thank You", "Thank You for serving," and "Come home safely," filled the surroundings.

It was a time that was as emotional as the coming home of our members. Our pride stood strong — our bearing stronger than the tears that we fought.

There were no protests, no anti-war signs, and no shouts of anger.

It was a time when the citizens that we represent showed their appreciation for all we do for them.

It was a time where the people of Connecticut showed their support for the Connecticut National Guard and the country's military.

It was a time when we were all hugely proud to be in the uniform of the United States military.

As we left the parade route, the Commander of Troops stopped the formation. Saluting the formation, he said "I am proud to serve with you today."

It was a time that will remain in our hearts and minds, and reminds us that our service to America is worthwhile and appreciated.

LT. COL. PAMELA K. TITUS  
JFHQ-CT



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TO VOLUNTEER YOUR  
SKILLS



# Homefront

## In defense of Connecticut's children: *D.A.R.E.- Drug Abuse Resistance Education*

CAPT. ANNE-MARIE GARCIA  
DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION ADMINISTRATOR

The Connecticut National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program recently partnered with the North Haven Police Department and visited four elementary schools in the town of North Haven.

The purpose was to present the students with positive alternatives and role models which is part of lesson twelve and thirteen in the new D.A.R.E. curriculum. These are activities that students find interesting and rewarding that can serve as positive alternatives to substance abuse.

Students will identify and participate in positive activities which they may find interesting and in which they can achieve success. The military, police officers, educators and other public servants who do not use drugs can serve as positive role models in influencing younger students not to use drugs.

D.A.R.E. is a collaborative effort by D.A.R.E. certified law enforcement officers, educators, students, parents and community leaders to offer an educational program in the classroom to prevent or reduce drug abuse and violence among children and youth. The emphasis of D.A.R.E. is to help students recognize and resist the many direct and subtle pressures



that influence them to experiment with alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, inhalants, or other drugs or to engage in violence.

The D.A.R.E. program offers preventive strategies to enhance those protective factors - especially bonding to the family, school and community - which appears to foster the development of resiliency in young people who may be at risk for substance abuse or other problem behaviors.

Researchers have identified certain protective and social bonding factors in the family, school and community, which may foster resiliency in young people, in other

words, the capacity of young people for healthy, independent growth in spite of adverse conditions.

These strategies focus on the development of social competence, communication skills, self-esteem, empathy, decision-making, conflict resolution, sense of purpose and independence and positive alternative activities to drug abuse and other destructive behaviors.

The D.A.R.E. program - offered in concert with other school-based prevention activities and intervention strategies for the identification, early intervention and

aftercare support of students at risk for substance abuse - may be viewed as a comprehensive substance abuse program that meets the goals of the federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act. A comprehensive program within the school offers such educational activities as the following to heighten awareness and knowledge about alcohol and other drug dependencies: A comprehensive program of instruction of the harmful effects of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs that are commonly abused.

The program is sequential and grade-appropriate for kindergarten through senior high school. Ideally, this instruction should be offered as an integral part of the school's comprehensive health curriculum. The program includes instruction by a certified D.A.R.E. Officer in target classrooms, parent education, including a D.A.R.E. evening for parents, interest groups, parent outreach and support.

If you would like to be connected with one of the many organizations or programs that the Connecticut National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program has to offer please call Capt. Anne-Marie Garcia at 860-493-2724.

## Chaplain's *Being prepared, having nothing to fear is comfort itself*

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CHAPLAIN KEVIN  
P. CAVANAUGH

As we  
grieved the  
passing of  
President  
Ronald

Reagan a few weeks ago, many of us felt a renewal of pride in America and in all she stands for. I suspect that those of us who serve America as members of the Connecticut National Guard felt a special pride as we renewed our dedication to keeping the country we love strong and free.

By serving in the military we help ready America to withstand the storms that inevitably blow our way. By serving our God we keep our souls ready for whatever time the Lord may call us home.

Assuring that we make ourselves ready for the hereafter is a way of life for all God-fearing women and men.

During President Reagan's funeral, I was struck by the words of both former President George H.W. Bush and his son and our Commander-in-Chief, President George W. Bush, as they delivered eloquent eulogies. Their words showed the

depth of their belief in God and their firm assurance that a still-better life awaits all of us who believe in the Creator and prepare well for the next life by doing His will.

Preparation - whether to defend America or to meet our God in the hereafter - is the key to success. I am reminded of a story, passed on to me a few weeks ago (sorry - I don't know the origin) which I think makes the point better than I could. Here's how it goes:

### WHEN THE WINDS BLOW

Years ago a farmer owned land along the Atlantic seacoast. He constantly advertised for hired hands. Most people were reluctant to work on farms along the Atlantic because they dreaded the awful storms that raged across the ocean, wreaking havoc on buildings and crops.

As the farmer interviewed applicants for the job, he received a steady stream of refusals.

Finally, a short, thin man, well past middle age, approached the farmer. "Are you a good farmhand?" the farmer asked him.

"Well, I can sleep when the wind blows," answered the little man.

Although puzzled by this answer, the farmer, desperate for help, hired the man. The little man worked well around the farm, busy from dawn to dusk, and the farmer felt satisfied with the man's work.

Then one night the wind howled loudly in from offshore. Jumping out of bed, the farmer grabbed a lantern and rushed next door to the hired hand's sleeping quarters. He shook the little man and yelled, "Get up! A storm is coming! Tie things down before they blow away!"

The little man rolled over in bed and said firmly, "No sir. I told you, I can sleep when the wind blows."

Enraged by the response, the farmer was tempted to fire him on the spot. Instead, he hurried outside to prepare for the storm. To his amazement, he discovered that all of the haystacks had been covered with tarpaulins. The cows were in the barn, the chickens were in the

coops, the doors were barred, and the shutters were tightly secured. Everything was tied down. Nothing could blow away.

The farmer then understood what his hired hand meant, so he returned to his bed to also sleep while the wind blew.

**MORAL:** When you're prepared, spiritually, mentally, and physically, you have nothing to fear.  
Can you sleep when the wind blows through your life?

As believers in Christ, we secure ourselves against the storms of life by grounding ourselves in God. We don't need to understand the circumstances; we just need to hold His hand to have peace in the midst of the storms.

Sleep well!

Many of life's circumstances are created by three basic choices: the disciplines you choose to keep, the people you choose to be with; and, the laws you choose to obey.



Sports

DoD  
standardizes  
HIV test  
interval across  
all services

GERRY J. GILMORE  
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Military members are now required to be tested for HIV every two years, according to a Defense Department health policy change implemented March 29.

The Armed Forces Epidemiological Board recommended the change, which standardizes the HIV testing interval across the services, according to Dr. David N. Tornberg, deputy assistant secretary of defense for clinical and program policy, during a May 20 interview.

DoD requires HIV testing, Tornberg explained, because it is responsible for maintaining the health and well-being of all servicemembers.

Previously, Tornberg noted, HIV testing intervals varied among the armed services. The military began testing service members for HIV, he said, in the mid-1980s.

Today, "we're optimizing testing," Tornberg explained, citing medical studies that show very few people with HIV become sick with AIDS within two years of being infected.

Therefore, servicemembers who test HIV positive under the new two-year interval, he noted, are most likely to benefit from anti-viral drugs and other treatments that help keep the disease at bay.

"We're looking to protect the individual," Tornberg said, noting that HIV- positive servicemembers are not automatically discharged and may continue on with their military careers.

The two-year interval also enables DoD to consolidate HIV testing for deployments. For example, he noted, Guard and Reserve members are now to have been tested for HIV within two years of a mobilization of more than 30 days.

Tornberg pointed out that both male and female service members could acquire HIV, which can be transmitted sexually, through intravenous drug use, or via blood transfusions.

People can help protect themselves from being infected with HIV, Tornberg observed, by employing safe sexual practices, including having monogamous relationships, and by not engaging in drug abuse practices.

The HIV infection rate across the military is about two out of every 10,000 servicemembers, Tornberg said, which is equal to or lower than the civilian population in the United States for the same age and gender.

"Our service people can avoid HIV infection, as can all individuals," he concluded.

7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL  
NGACT OPEN



DATE:  
**Friday**  
**3 September 2003**  
LOCATION:  
**Keney Golf Course**  
**Hartford, CT**  
TIME:  
**11:00 am Shotgun Start**  
COST:  
**\$90.00 person**  
FORMAT:  
**Four (4)**  
**Person Scramble**  
**GROSS + NET DIVISIONS**

*All proceeds to benefit  
the Connecticut Children's Medical Center  
and the NGACT Scholarship fund*

Tournament Day Schedule	
9:00-10:45	Registration, Coffee, Donuts
10:45-11:00	Depart for starting holes
11:00	Shotgun start
5:00	Steak Barbecue, Awards, Raffle

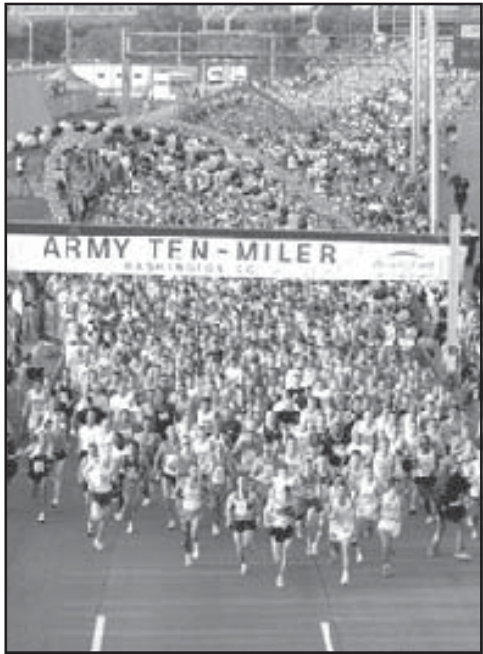
- Tournament Includes:**
- >Coffee & Pastry Before Golf<
  - >18 Holes with cart<
  - >Lunch<
  - >Steak Barbecue to follow golf (beer, wine, soda)<
  - >Awards, prizes and raffle>
  - >\$10,000 Hole in One contest<
  - >Hole in one Vehicle Contest<
  - >Men's & Ladies Closest to the Pin contest<
  - >Men's & Ladies Long drive contest<
  - >50/50 contest<

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2		
3		
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20th Anniversary Army Ten-Miler

Sunday, October 24, 2004  
Start Time: 8 a.m.  
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Register Online at [www.armytenmiler.com](http://www.armytenmiler.com)

Field is limited to 20,000



# Guarding Your Rights

## Legal Affairs: *Automobile accident claims*

1<sup>ST</sup> LT. ROBERT E. HENRY  
JUDGE ADVOCATE, 143<sup>RD</sup> ASG

Automobile accidents are a fact of life. Throughout your driving lifetime the likelihood of being involved in an auto accident is substantial.

As with any traumatic experience preparation can negate the negative impact of an accident.

The steps discussed below can help you in resolving the issues arising from an automobile accident.

At the accident scene:

It is a good idea to keep a disposable camera in the glove box of your vehicle. This can be used to document any property damage (or the lack thereof) to the vehicles involved. Photographs are powerful evidence in substantiating or denying subsequent injury claims.

It is also important to get the names and contact information of any witnesses.

DO NOT ASSUME that the responding police officer will get all of the relevant information. Independent witnesses are equally important evidence in substantiating any injury/lack of injury. In the state of Connecticut the time between and accident

and its adjudication is approximately four years. In that time memories fade, people move, etc. Taking minutes to preserve this valuable evidence at the accident scene can potentially save years in resolving a claim.

If you are injured, immediately document that you are injured and seek medical treatment as soon as feasible. Delays in reporting and/or treating an injury bring the legitimacy and causation of that injury into question. Immediately notify the law enforcement organization with jurisdiction of the accident. Even if there is minimal damage to the vehicles involved having an officer respond and document the accident can save years of contentious negotiations down the road.

After clearing the accident scene:

Follow up with medical treatment. It is often the case that injuries caused by an auto accident do not manifest until a significant time after the accident itself. The sooner an injury is identified, diagnosed and treated the sooner the claim regarding it will be resolved.

Be certain that you are diligent in following the treatment orders of your health care provider. Failure to do so can bring in to

question the seriousness of the claimed injury.

Immediately notify your automobile insurance carrier of the accident. Your auto insurance policy requires the policy holder to timely notify the carrier of any claim and to cooperate in the handling of that claim. Failure to notify and/or cooperate are a basis to deny coverage of the claim. In the event this occurs your personal assets could be exposed to seizure to satisfy a judgment.

As soon as possible provide your insurance carrier with the information that you gathered at the accident scene, to include photographs, names of witnesses, the name and department of the responding police officer, firefighters, and/or EMTs, and the names, addresses and insurance carriers of the other parties involved.

Following these steps can help to minimize the impact of an auto accident on your life and can greatly accelerate the pace at which property damage and personal injury claims arising out of the accident will be resolved.



## NGACT: Working for you



The National Guard Association of Connecticut is growing.

Our membership in the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States (EANGUS) has almost tripled in the past year.

Our membership drive for the National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) has kicked into high gear with the appointments of Col. Tom Heath and Capt. Charlie Jaworski as NGAUS secretaries for their respective services.

And, for the first time, we have an NGACT Auxiliary which just received its national charter. A ceremony recognizing this will be held at the EANGUS National Conference in Louisville, KY in August.

And our own state membership drive continues throughout the year. We give briefings at the quarterly Post-AIT weekends, we are available to come out to any unit to give our briefings, and shortly we will begin giving briefings to the Family Support Groups around the state.

But what do these organizations do, and why is it important that you join?

The NGACT works diligently at the state and national level to get legislation passed that will benefit our Soldiers, Airmen, retirees and families. We fight for equipment, MilCon dollars and quality of life issues.

NGAUS, the national officers' association, works mainly on the equipment and training issues at the national level.

EANGUS works mainly on the quality of life issues at the national level.

Both NGAUS and EANGUS are members of the formidable Military Coalition, an organization of 32 military groups that presents a strong united front on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Both NGAUS and EANGUS are themselves recognized on The Hill as strong lobbying organizations and enjoy a great deal of respect.

Members of the NGACT attend the annual conferences every year, the EANGUS Legislative Workshop (where members go to The Hill and lobby their own Congressmen and Senators), and serve on national-level committees. One of our members chairs the EANGUS Public Relations Committee.

This year NGACT recommitted itself to becoming a strong voice at the Legislature in Hartford. And we did make our voices heard!

We had mixed results this year. While we managed to get six bills out of committee this year (a monumental feat in itself), we only got one bill passed into law.

But we have not given up the fight! We need your help. Contact the NGACT office at 860-247-5000 to become a member.



## Confusion exists concerning USERRA; Explantation provided

Ronald E. Lee, 1SG, USAR (Ret.)  
CT-ESGR Public Affairs Chairman

By this time all National Guard and Reserve Components service members should have attended at least one USERRA briefing given by an ESGR Military Unit Liaison Volunteer; a pre-mobilization briefing; a mobilization briefing; or a demobilization briefing and understand their rights as well as their responsibilities concerning their civilian employment and reemployment.

Based on the number of inquiries received by ESGR Ombudsmen, it is apparent that there is still some confusion regarding certain USERRA aspects.

CT-ESGR Lead Ombudsman Tom Langlais reported that there has been an abundance of complaints regarding "Return to Work Timeframe" issues that need reinforcement. Attention to that topic alone will be the subject of this article.

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) United States Code Section 4312 Subchapter II addresses the topic of Rights and Limitations; Prohibitions stipulating timelines to report and reapply for your civilian employment upon return from military duty. Section 4312 subsections (b) (c), and (d) and section 4304 sets forth the requirements to qualify for reemployment following an absence by reason of service

in the uniformed services.

Depending upon the length of the absence, ranging from one to more than 180 days (longer if hospitalized or convalescing from illness or injury sustained in connection with the uniformed service), you have a set timeframe to apply to return to work.

You must take into consideration the support and benefits that you have received

**The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) addresses the topic of Rights and Limitations; Prohibitions stipulating timelines to report and reapply for your civilian employment upon return from military duty.**

from your employer during your absence; the nature of your employer's business and sacrifices made during your absence; your personal issues, etc. when deciding how long you wait to return to your job, being mindful of the statutory timeframe.

A suggestion proposed by Tom is that if you intend on taking significant time to return, you should probably wait until you are nearly prepared to return (again, within the timeframe) before submit a notice that you are applying to return to work.

If you need to contact your employer, state

clearly that you are not applying to return to work at this time but will do so in (state timeframe). It is advisable to do this in writing. In this way you will not make an issue to your employer and co-workers that you have returned from uniformed service and are simply biding time to return to your civilian job. You must keep in mind that USERRA is there to protect you but you must also use common sense and tactful employee/employer relations so as not to "win the battle, but loose the war."

Depending upon the duration of your uniformed service, you may legitimately need time to get your family and/or personal affairs in order and are justified in taking time to do so.

But again, you must respect the sacrifices as well as the support that your employer has endured during your absence and you do not want to take unnecessary advantage of the fact that you do not have to immediately return to your civilian unless you choose to do so.

As always, if you have any questions concerning this or any other issue related to your service please feel free to contact an ESGR Ombudsman or your unit's ESGR Military Unit Liaison member to simply discuss your concerns and ensure that you are doing the right thing, within the guidelines of USERRA and any other applicable laws or contractual agreements.



## Why Diversity?

# Connecticut National Guard sweeps National Image Awards

SGT. 1ST CLASS SCOTT J. FARRELL  
STATE DIVERSITY INITIATIVES COORDINATOR (SDIC)

The Connecticut National Guard became the first state ever to win both the Army and Air National Guard categories of the National Image Award.

The mission of National Image Inc. is to favorably impact the employment, education and civil rights of Hispanic Americans. Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Adjutant General and Commander of the Connecticut National Guard, was proud to hear that Spec. Werner Oyanadel of the Connecticut Army National Guard and Tech. Sgt. Frank Alvarado of the Connecticut Air National Guard received the National Image Inc. Salute to Hispanics in the Military Meritorious Service Award.

Both received their award at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual "Salute to Hispanics in the Military" awards banquet held at the Hilton in the Walt Disney World Resort, Lake Buena Vista, FL. Hispanic members from all the Armed services including the Coast Guard were honored for upholding the finest traditions of our country and of our military.

Oyanadel and Alvarado were nominated for their contributions and outstanding service to the Community and the Connecticut Army and Air National Guard respectively.

Nominations were based on the following criteria:

- Promoting the tenets of civil/human

rights, race relations, equal opportunity, human relations and public service programs.

- Supporting and contributing to advance the civil rights movement.

- Endorsing the full integration and promotion of minorities and women within the armed forces.

- Promoting a positive understanding of the armed forces among and between minority and non-minority members of the military and civilian population.

- Fostering an innovative and creative environment between the military and civilian community of all races and ethnic backgrounds that benefits the employees and/or residents.

- Promoting programs and activities that advocate equal opportunity based on individual merit of all employees within the federal workplace.

- Displaying exceptional qualities that distinguish the individual as an outstanding leader.

- Believe in and practice of the tenets of the United States constitution and the democratic society that all persons are created equal, and that freedom is a god-given right that must be protected vigilantly at all times.

"I have enthusiastically endorsed the nomination of both Tech. Sgt. Frank Alvarado and Spec. Werner Oyanadel for the National Inc. Salute to Hispanics in the Military and Meritorious Service Award. The

accomplishments of both individuals are truly remarkable," said Cugno.

Alvarado was born in New York City, New York in 1949 and enlisted into the 103d Air Control Squadron of the Connecticut Air National Guard in October 1989, where he continues to serve with honor and dignity as the Non-Commissioned Officer In-Charge (NCOIC) of the Services section, overseeing six traditional guardsmen and women. He has deployed to Colombia on three occasions in support of Operation CONSTANT VIGIL, to ground-based radar sites performing counter narcotics surveillance. He has also volunteered to deploy to Puerto Rico and Turkey in support of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) sponsored military exercises. For the past two years, he has volunteered for Services duty supporting the ACS involved in Exercise GRECIAN FIREBOLT, a joint service worldwide communications exercise with the U.S. Army.

Alvarado is the Chief Operating Officer for the Community Action Agency of New Haven, which provides social service programs to the Greater New Haven area, to include Meals on Wheels, Energy Assistance Program, Senior Aides Training Program, the State of Connecticut Weatherization Program and programs that provide homeownership and entrepreneurial opportunities to low and moderate income individuals. He is on the Boards of the New

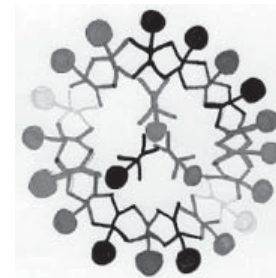
Haven Road Race and Crossroads, Inc., a bilingual program for Substance Rehabilitation.

Alvarado resides in East Haven, and has three children.

Oyanadel was born and raised in Santiago, Chile, South America. He is an Associate Legislative Analyst for the State of Connecticut *Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission* (LPRAC). In this position, he prepares analytic reports on public policy issues affecting the Latino community, tracks pertinent legislation, and prepares/presents testimony before the Connecticut General Assembly. He also collaborates with other state agency officials and community advocates, and often speaks before various state agencies and community organizations in both English and Spanish. Previously he was a Legislative Assistant to the Connecticut Senate and the House Majority Office.

Oyanadel is a member of the Connecticut Army National Guard's Human Resources Office. In this position he serves as the *Hispanic Emphasis Program Manager* and assists the State Equal Employment Manager with programs in accordance with applicable law and regulation in support of the National Guard equal opportunity goal.

Oyanadel and his wife, Luz, reside in West Hartford, with his two stepsons.



Tech. Sgt. Frank Alvarado of the Connecticut Air National Guard and Spec. Werner Oyanadel of the Connecticut Army National Guard with Maj. Gen Juan A. Garcia, Air National Guard for Human Resources Readiness after receiving their National Image Awards. (Photo courtesy Sgt. 1st Class Scott Farrell)



# Health & Fitness



## Medical Notes



COL. FRANK T. DiNUCCI, RN, COHNS  
SAFETY & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH MANAGER

I recently had a fellow nurse tell me she noticed a small growth on my nose. I told her it has been there for a long time. I decided to have it checked out by a surgeon. The surgeon removed it and sent it to the lab to check for any possible problem. The test concluded I had a basal cell carcinoma.

The surgeons had to remove more area around the site. The test showed the site was absent of cancer. As a nurse I should have known to have it checked earlier as most skin cancers are curable if caught in time. Please read the following information as it might just help you save a life, YOURS.

Skin cancer destroys and replaces normal skin cells. The cancer usually starts in the outer layer (epidermis) of the skin.

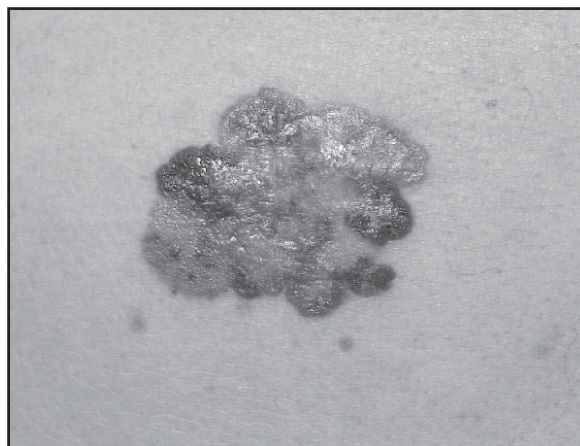
There are three types of skin cancer.

Basal cell – this is the most common skin cancer and it is usually not life-threatening.

Squamous cell – similar to basal cell in structure.

Melanoma – the cancer occurs in the pigment producing cells (melanocytes). The cells grow uncontrollably and invade the surrounding tissue. It may affect only the skin or it may spread to other organs and the bones. Melanoma is a less common but more severe form of skin cancer.

Skin cancers appear as a change in the skin. A change in a wart or mole, an irritation or a sore that does not heal.



*This melanoma has grown over three years. It demonstrates every feature of ABCD. It is asymmetric with a collage of scalloped edges from localized growth. The borders are irregular and poorly defined. The colors range from black to brown to pink to white. The diameter has increased over time.*

the skin. If cancer is suspected then a biopsy of the area can be done.

The risk factors for skin cancer include:

Melanoma can occur in an existing mole or it can develop on unmarked skin. It can also appear as a change in the shape, size or color of a mole. A mole that has uneven, asymmetrical borders may indicate melanoma.

Skin cancers are diagnosed by physical examination of

having light colored skin, a history of severe sunburn during childhood, having blond or red hair, blue or light colored eyes, a history of skin cancer, inability to tan and working outside without using protection from the sun.

To prevent skin cancer, protect your skin. Wear a hat that will protect your face and neck from the sun. Wear sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 15 or higher on both clear and cloudy days all year round. Reapply the sunscreen every two hours and after swimming or exercise that makes you sweaty.

Be careful when you are on sand, water or snow. These surfaces can reflect 85 percent of the sun's rays. Avoid sun lamps and tanning booths. Wear sunglasses.

Skin cancers are treated by surgical removal of the lesion. If you have a concern about any possible skin problems, you should seek out a qualified dermatologist. Remember the earlier the treatment, the better the outcome.

## Fit for Life: Gettysburg then . . . . . Your independence today?

MAJ. JAMES FINN  
MASTER FITNESS TRAINER

Many different estimates exist on the number of casualties inflicted during the battle of Gettysburg, but one common estimate is as follows:

\* Total Confederate casualties have been estimated to be as great as 28,000. It is usually agreed that total Confederate casualties numbered at least 1/3 of Lee's army.

\*\* Casualties during the Civil War generally included anyone who deserted, was captured, missing, wounded, or killed. If a soldier was **not present during muster**, he could likely be counted as a casualty.

We have no way of knowing how many fell at Gettysburg due to **heat injuries**.

We do know that the thousands of Soldiers spent long days road marching to the battle with depleted supplies, little or contaminated water, and a hope that "this would be the last battle of the War."

The consensus of historians is that many were unprepared for the arduous three days of combat. **Many died, not solely from their battle injuries but a combination of tactical**

**errors.**

February 17<sup>th</sup>, 1991 Iraq

Persian Gulf War. While I worked with Task Force Hart and Task Force Cofer, fuel and ammunition missions for the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division, we located and transported thousands of Iraqi Enemy Prisoners of War (EPWs).

Many died in our arms during transport to the detainment sites. Not from battle injuries but dehydration and malnutrition. Coalition Forces had cut their supply lines by attacking the Republican Guard.

A disaster in Connecticut could empty grocers' shelves in a few days or even hours.

**May 29<sup>th</sup>, 1995, New England**

Few remember that the same day as the Great Barrington, F3-F4 Tornado, Memorial Day 1995; an F-1 passed through South Britain and Southbury costing about \$10 thousand in damage.

Great Barrington's destruction was more than \$25 million. A slight shift in a weather pattern and Waterbury could have been "ground zero" for an F-4.

During the last 100 years Connecticut has been relatively blessed with few tornados,

earthquakes, forest fires, or floods.

If an earthquake occurs and every bridge is down across Connecticut, can you get to your Unit, your home?

If a tornado hits, does your family and community have a plan?

we have a drought the beautiful trees that cover Connecticut could be a forest fire threat to the survival of thousands and their homes. Natural disasters are prevented from becoming personal disasters by "readiness".

**July 2004 Connecticut**

We have many advantages not available to our Union and Confederate brethren or the Iraqi EPW: time to plan and resources. We also have consistent nutrition, clean water, and "usually" rapid medical treatment.

My goal in this article is to get you thinking about preparing for the worst, **ahead of time**.

We are better to be prepared and not needing our contingency plans than not preparing and left in need.

Do you have a supply of food and water in your home in case of natural or un-natural

disaster? Do you keep your self physically fit; a critical need during response to emergencies? Simply passing an APFT is not enough. Do your loved ones know where to go or what to do while you are away during Annual Training???

Summer months increase our physical activities and require proper hydration, nutrition and fitness.

**The most successful leaders in our history had three common factors:** they **plan** ("brainstorm"), they **write down** their ideas, and they **implement** what they wrote down.

If you don't plan a summer diet you will only eat what is convenient. If you don't carry your "Camel Back" (filled with water), you will drink the usual picnic beverages: soda, beer, iced coffee/tea. **All Diuretics**. They will make you more dehydrated. Plan your workouts and activities so your bed (sleeping-in), couch (tele-surfing), or beach lounge (catching rays) don't fill your days. September will be here soon. Grab all your opportunities for family fun and fitness.

Don't be the Soldier **not present during muster**, when your family and Connecticut needs you.



Visit the  
**Connecticut Guardian**  
on-line at [www.ct.ngb.army.mil](http://www.ct.ngb.army.mil)





# Another first for the Connecticut Guard

Lt. Col. Russ Styles  
DPI

Between June 8 and 10, the Data Processing Center conducted its annual Continuity of Operations test in conjunction with the Massachusetts Nation Guard. What made this test different was that Connecticut (physically moved) and loaded its entire Oracle Database onto Massachusetts mainframes. Its uniqueness was that both databases functioned simultaneously on the same system. This has never been accomplished by any state to date.

During the test Connecticut users functionally produced routine orders on the Massachusetts systems, printed them in Massachusetts than altered and revoked them. Each user logged-in as normal than proceeded to perform their workaday functions (in Connecticut) without realizing they were connected to a system in Milford Massachusetts. In effect they saw their normal application screens being generated in Massachusetts. Another new, and now proven, facet of the test was that in addition to Connecticut functioning on the Massachusetts systems, so was the

Massachusetts guard, simultaneously. This test validated that multiple states can function normally without interfering with the others data. In the post test review each order produced was evaluated for data integrity and format, in the words of the test managers, each was perfect!

During the next sixty days the Connecticut and Massachusetts Data Processing Managers have been requested to brief the NGB-AIS automation staff. Their interest is how the states accomplished the task with limited resources, what lessons were learned, can this test produce templates for national use and would the states be available to assist in the engineering development of a standardized program? In the interim Connecticut will host Massachusetts in conducting the same test using their user base with lessons learned incorporated.

What does this accomplish? Simply it allows the USP&FO to meet its statutory requirements of providing the commands staff with accurate and timely data services in the event of a catastrophic emergency as mandated by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and Army Regulations.

# Connecticut Nike missilemen to hold reunion in Fall

The adventures of defending New England against the Russian Bear during the Cold War will live again on September 13, 14 and 15, 2004 at the Radisson Hotel in New London. This is the date of the reunion of the former members of the 1/242 (Nike-Ajax) and 1/192(Nike-Ajax) and 1/192 (Nike-Hercules) Missile Battalions of the Connecticut Army National Guard who defended the Hartford and Bridgeport Areas of New England around the clock during the long uncertain days of the late 1950's thru the early 1970's. These units were descended from the Korean War Era 238<sup>th</sup> and 745<sup>th</sup> AAA Gun Battalions of the CTARNG.

This will be an informal reunion with lots of time for renewing old acquaintances and adding to your stock of stories and putting on a few pounds from all the snacks. A dinner with entertainment will be held the evening of the 15<sup>th</sup>. All former Air Defense veterans are invited as \well as their families. A registration form is published in this newspaper or please contact:

Bob Mercier  
Reunion Chairperson  
  
(860)621-9901  
r.p.mercier@snet.net  
bkram1942@aol.com

or

Bob Kramer  
  
Committee Member  
(860)742-7608

## Twenty Third Annual SENIOR NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER FORMAL DINING-IN

DATE: 7 October 2004 (Thursday Evening)

TIME: 1830 Hours

PLACE: Aqua-Turf Club, Southington, Connecticut

COST: FORTY DOLLARS (\$40.00)

ELIGIBILITY: Noncommissioned Officers and Chief Petty Officers, E-7 and above. All eligible ARNG and ANG NCOs are expected to attend. CPOs are invited to attend. Retirees are most welcome.

UNIFORM: Army Dress Blues with Bow Tie or Army Greens with white shirt and black bow tie. Appropriate attire for other services. Retirees may wear the uniform or a business suit as meets their desires.

HOST: State Command Sergeant Major, Connecticut Army National Guard  
CSM Raymond P. Zastaury, Jr.

GUEST SPEAKER: TBA

APPLICATION DUE DATE: Military Protocol requires prompt response (within 72 hours of receipt of flyer).

No responses accepted after 25 September 2004

The formal military dinner ceremony known as the "Dining-In" is an old and traditional military affair believed to have its origins in medieval England. The Dining-In is now recognized as an occasion to foster ceremony, tradition, and camaraderie within an organization and to emphasize their importance in the life of a service member. It is an excellent occasion to bid farewell to service members who have departed, to welcome new ones, and to recognize the achievements of military service and individual members. Please note the guest speaker!

The cost of the affair includes a full course dinner (main entree: Roast Prime Ribs of Beef, or a fish entree upon special request) and refreshments before and during dinner. A cash bar will be available after dinner. On receipt of your application, you will receive a mailing that will include specific uniform and protocol information.

The Aqua-Turf Club is located on Mulberry Street in Southington, Connecticut. It is a short distance from Routes 84, 691, 10, and 322.

Your support of the only Senior Noncommissioned Officer activity, the Dining-In, has been superb. It is requested that you continue to support this, your Dining-In, and continue the great tradition. Submit your application to attend as soon as possible after receipt of this notice. Early response enables the committee to better plan the Dining-In and make it a more enjoyable evening for all.

NOTE: Seating will be arranged with unit integrity or upon a specific request for tables of ten. Appropriate fines will be imposed for violations of the Mess. Cost of fines will range from \$1.00 to whatever is deemed appropriate by the President or Mister Vice.

We look forward to seeing you there!

### DETACH AND MAIL PORTION BETWEEN DOUBLE LINES

I will attend the Senior NCO Dining-In on 7 October 2004.

My check in the amount of \$40.00 is attached.

NAME: RANK:

Home address:

Zip Code:

UNIT:

Indicate your preference for Fish in lieu of Roast Beef:

### MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: "2004 Senior NCO Dining-In"

Mail returns to: Command Sergeant Major  
Connecticut Army National Guard  
National Guard Armory  
360 Broad St.  
Hartford, CT 06105-3795

### PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD CONCERNING THE DINING-IN!

Let other E7s and above NCOs and CPOs, who have never attended, know about this grand affair. NCOs and CPOs make it happen!



# Retirees' Voice

## Planning for the unthinkable

SGT. 1ST CLASS (RET.) JOHN BEDNARZ

In a recent issue of *Army Times* Command Master Chief (Retired) Alex Keenan did an article on preparing your loved one for the worst-case scenario.

He was talking about the day when a spouse or next of kin must tend to the personal and financial affairs after someone becomes incapacitated or dies. I had to sit down and read this one because it is something that my wife and I need to do. I have a feeling there are a bunch of us in the same boat.

Usually one spouse or the other has a handle on the finances, the ID cards, health-care matters and social security. Many responsibilities fall on the shoulders of the remaining spouse or children when they may be least able to cope with them. I was talking with an old retired friend recently and he mentioned how a mutual friend had passed on. The widow was in a quandary because she had no idea what needed to be done as far as social security, ID card, insurances, retirement pay, etc. In this case my friend helped her get through it.

Planning ahead for such an occurrence is difficult in that there never seems to be a right moment to do it, and there is reluctance to talk about this sensitive subject. There are several checklists available from various sources. I seem to recall that there was such a checklist in my retiree's handbook.

When we attended the National Guard Family Area Conference in Mystic in September 2003, Lynn McPhelimy, the author of a book titled *In the Checklist of Life*, made a presentation on this very

subject. Her book contains a checklist of essential items that need to be discussed, from banking information, real estate and investments to funeral arrangements and where the septic tank is located in the yard. The book is published by AAIP Publishing Co. LLC, P. O. Box 102, Rockfall, CT 06481.

You can do it with just a notebook. The first step would be to make a list of the routine tasks you accomplish. Then expand the list with things that are done as required. For instance the month and year that your IDs, insurance policies, driver's licenses and automobile registration are renewed

Next assign each idea to a category such as Money (banking, insurance, charge card, investments, pensions), Material (house, cars, vacation home, other stuff), Other (pets, photos, other memorabilia). For each listed item include important data about these items. For example under automobile include make, model, registration location and renewal date, loan payments, expiration of military registration.

Other sections could include wills, medical and dental insurance policies, marriage and birth certificates, location and contents of safe deposit boxes.

You can even designate burial place, preferred funeral home, type of service, etc. There is no set format for your list so let it reflect your situation. Keep it handy and let everyone know where it is. Refer back to it often and make changes as required.

As difficult as it is to do now, it makes those moments so much easier at the end. To quote from Ms. McPhelimy's book, "So why not plan for the celebration of your life?"

### Jazz, Rock, and Chorus Singers Needed

for the 102d Army Band's  
2005 Summer Concert Series

Audition Video Tapes, contact info, and Commander's endorsement must be received by **30 Nov 04** at: 102d Army Band, 61 Center Street, Bristol, CT 06010-4917

Video Tapes should include the **Star Spangled Banner** and one other selection of the singer's choice.

ANY MOS (E6 and below) can apply. Three CTARNG soldiers will be attached to the 102d Army Band from April to July, including their Annual Training requirement. TY '05, dates include:  
16-17 Apr, 21-22 & 30 May, 25-26 Jun, 12(night) & 15-30 Jul (AT).

For more information contact:  
SGT James Boski at (860) 524-4965 x17

## Retirees Picnic - 2004

August 25<sup>th</sup>  
1200-1700

Camp Rowland, Niantic CT

Bring a guest!

Active Duty Welcome!

Pass the word!

Meet old friends!



Raffle! Prizes!

Lots of Food,  
Beer & Soda!

Live Music!

Card Games!

**Come Join the Fun! Mark your calendar!**

\*\*As a special tribute, any retiree that is 80 years-old or older in 2004, attends for **FREE**\*\*

Detach and return to COL(Ret) Bob Kelly

2004 Retirees Picnic

Cost: \$18.00/person by July 23rd  
\$20.00/person after July 23rd  
FREE Over 80 in 2004

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Army Air

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Return with payment:

COL (Ret) Bob Kelly

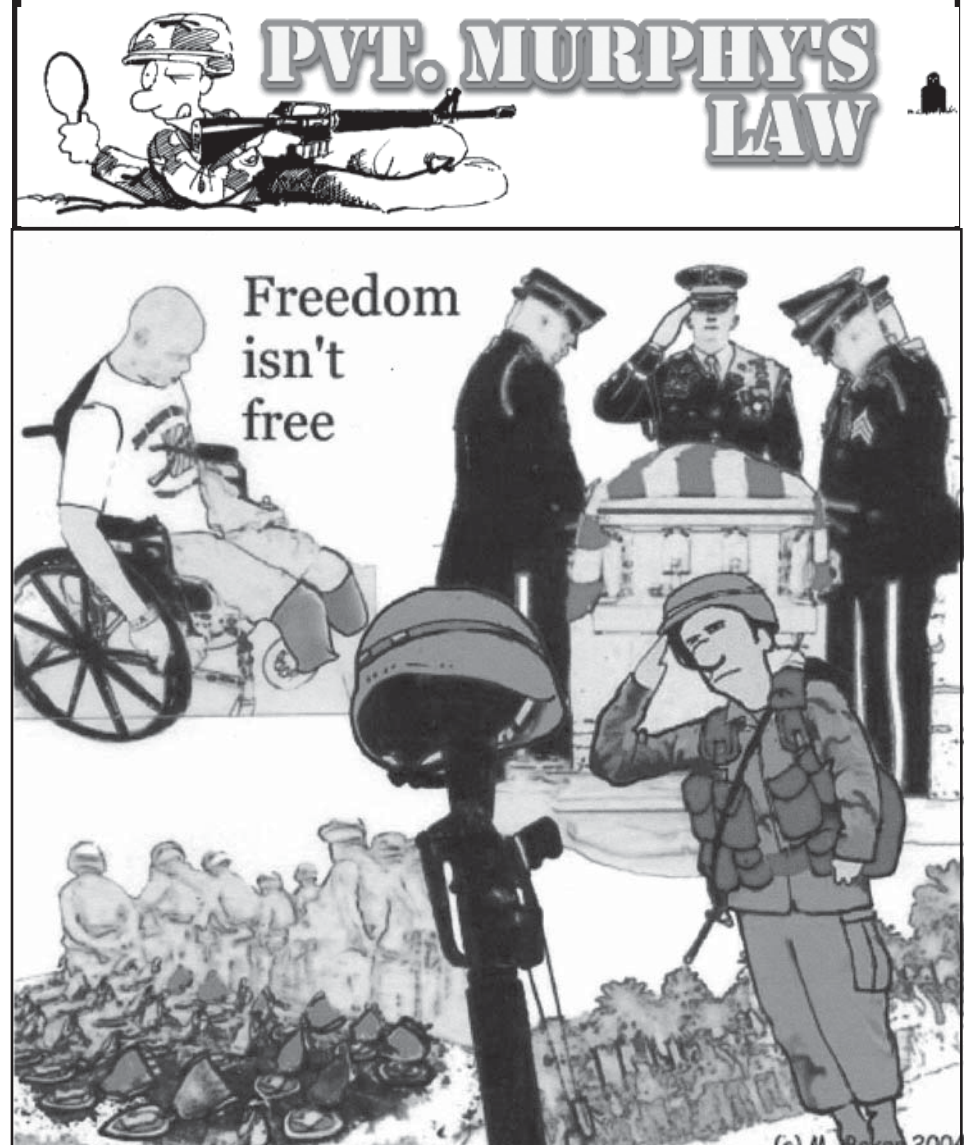
214 Church Street

Wethersfield, CT 06109

1-860-529-6851

Make Check payable to: **NGACT**

My Address has changed from last year.





**MAINTAINING STRENGTH IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS**

*The strength of the Army National Guard depends on soldiers like you.  
Now YOU CAN help strengthen your unit and earn some great rewards too.*

**WARRIOR SPIRIT  
CHALLENGE****1 MAY 2004 - 30 SEP 2004****TWO ACCESSIONS****REFER 2 LEADS**

*Who enlist before 30 September*

**RECEIVE**

ARNG Limited Backpack  
Seven Days of ADSW\*

**FOUR ACCESSIONS****REFER 4 LEADS**

*Who enlist before 30 September*

**RECEIVE**

ARNG Limited Backpack  
Seven Days of ADSW\*  
ARNG Wind Breaker

**SIX ACCESSIONS****REFER 6 LEADS**

*Who enlist before 30 September*

**RECEIVE**

ARNG Limited Backpack  
Seven Days of ADSW\*  
ARNG Wind Breaker  
Air Assault School

**EIGHT ACCESSIONS****REFER 8 LEADS**

*Who enlist before 30 September*

**RECEIVE**

ARNG Limited Backpack  
Seven Days of ADSW\*  
ARNG Wind Breaker  
Air Assault School  
Training In Washington D.C.

**Challenge is open to all traditional (M-Day) soldiers in the Army National Guard**

*\*ADSW is to be used to support recruiting efforts*

**CONTACT YOUR LOCAL RECRUITER TODAY**

1-800-GO-GUARD • [www.1-800-GO-GUARD.com](http://www.1-800-GO-GUARD.com)



**The Camp Rowland PX has  
temporarily moved to Building  
65**

**Visit them there for all the same  
merchandise you stopped for at the old  
location.**

**Coming Events  
July****July 1 - 3**

Battle of Gettysburg Anniversary

**July 4**

Independence Day

**July 14**

NGACT Executive Board Meeting

**July 18**

Connecticut National Guard Day

Norwich Navigators

Dodd Stadium

**July 19-21**

EANGUS Legislative Workshop

Alexandria, VA

**July 31**

OCS Graduation

**August****August 22-25**

EANGUS National Conference

Louisville, KY

**August 25**

Retirees Picnic

**September****September 3**

NGACT Golf Tournament

Keney Park

**September 11**

Family Day/Welcome Home

Camp Rowland

**September 14-16**

NGAUS General Conference

Las Vegas, Nevada

**In future issues**

OCS Graduation

Geneva Convention & The UCMJ

National Guard Day at Norwich Navigators

9/11 Welcome Home

NGACT Golf Tournament

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month  
previous to publication.



# Army gets new combat uniform

SGT. 1ST CLASS MARCIA TRIGGS  
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

The Army will be fielding a new combat uniform designed by NCOs and tested by Stryker Brigade Soldiers in Iraq since October.

On the Army's 229th birthday, senior leadership introduced the Army Combat Uniform during a Pentagon cake-cutting ceremony. Soldiers were on display, suited-up in the wrinkle-free uniform with a digitized camouflage pattern.

Three different versions of the ACU have been developed, and more than 10,000 uniforms have been produced and dragged through the sand in Iraq and at Army training centers. Even more are on American production lines to be issued by April 2005 to Soldiers in deploying units. Fielding to the total Army should be complete by December 2007, said officials from the Program Executive Office, known as PEO Soldier.

There were 20 changes made to the uniform, to include removing the color black and adapting the digital print from the Marine Corps uniform to meet the needs of the Army, said Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Myhre, the Clothing and Individual Equipment noncommissioned officer in charge. Black is no longer useful on the uniform because it is not a color commonly found in nature. The drawback to black is that its color immediately catches the eye, he added. "The color scheme in the ACU capitalizes on the environments that we operate in," Myhre said. "The current colors on the ACU are green-woodland, grey-urban environments and sand brown-desert. The pattern is not a 100-percent solution in every environment, but a good solution across the board."

"This isn't about a cosmetic redesign of the uniform," said Col. John Norwood, the project manager for Clothing and Individual Equipment. "It's a functionality change of the uniform that will improve the ability of Soldiers to execute their combat mission." Every change was made for a reason. The bottom pockets on the jacket were removed and placed on the shoulder sleeves so Soldiers can have access to them while wearing body armor. The pockets were also tilted forward so that they are easily



Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Myhre, the Program Executive Office NCOIC, sports the Army Combat Uniform, the recently approved wear for Soldiers. It contains 20 new improvements.

accessible. Buttons were replaced with zippers that open from the top and bottom to provide comfort while wearing armor. Patches and tabs are affixed to the uniform with Velcro to give the wearer more flexibility and to save the Soldier money, Myhre said. Soldiers can take the name-tapes and patches off their uniforms before laundering, which will add to the lifecycle of the patches. Also the cost to get patches sewn on will be eliminated, he added.

The ACU will consist of a jacket, trousers, moisture wicking t-shirt and the brown combat boots. It will replace both versions of the BDU and the desert camouflage uniform. The black beret will be the normal headgear for the ACU, but there is a matching patrol cap to

be worn at the commander's discretion. At \$88 per uniform, about \$30 more than the BDU, Soldiers will eventually reap gains in money and time by not having to take uniforms to the cleaners or shine boots. The life of the ACU began in January 2003 when PEO Soldier teamed with Myhre, Master Sgt. Alex Samoba and Staff Sgt. Matt Goodine - from the 1st Stryker Brigade, Fort Lewis, Wash. The team looked at a number of uniforms and took the best part of each uniform and combined it into one. They built their first prototype and delivered 25

uniforms to Stryker squads at the National Training Center. After listening to their comments, the team went back to the lab and created prototype two.

Twenty-one uniforms were then delivered to Stryker Soldiers at the Joint Training and Readiness Center, Fort Polk, La. "We watched them as they entered and cleared rooms, as they carried their rucksack and all of the things they had to be able to do in the uniform, and then we came up with prototype three," Myhre said. Two issues of the third version were given to the Stryker Soldiers deploying to Iraq. Three months ago, Myhre was among a team who visited Iraq to get more feedback from Soldiers.

"We would talk to Soldiers right after they had completed a mission while the benefits of the uniform were still fresh in their minds. We wanted to know how did the uniform help the mission."

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston is one of the ACU's biggest supporters. He said major command sergeants major had a chance to see the uniform and give advice toward the final version.

"We have not made a major change to our uniforms since the BDUs (battle dress uniforms) were introduced in the early 1980s," Preston said. "This new uniform performs well in multiple environments. Its new pockets and color designs are a result of feedback from Soldiers in combat. Every modification made on the uniform was designed with a specific purpose and not just for the sake of change."

#### Uniform changes include:

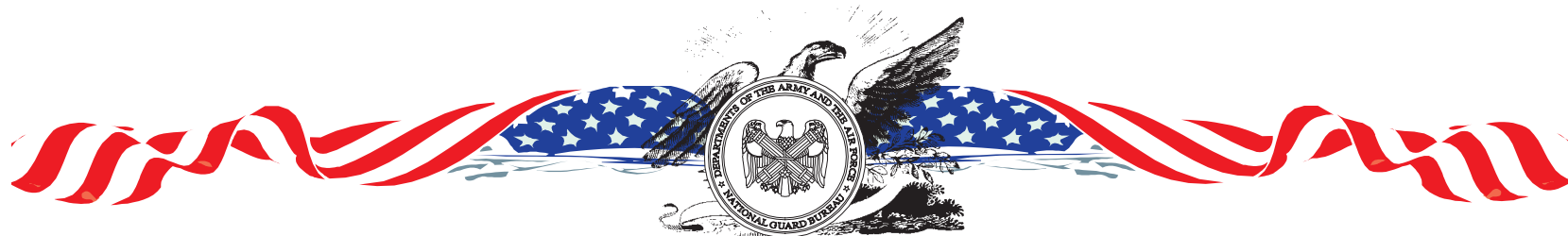
1. Mandarin collar that can be worn up or down
2. Rank insignia centered on the front of the blouse
3. Velcro for wearing unit patch, skill tabs and recognition devices
4. Zippered front closure
5. Elbow pouch for internal elbow pad inserts
6. Knee pouch for internal knee pad inserts
7. Draw string leg cuff
8. Tilted chest pockets with Velcro closure
9. Three-slot pen pocket on bottom of sleeve
10. Velcro sleeve cuff closure
11. Shoulder pockets with Velcro
12. Forward tilted cargo pockets
13. Integrated blouse bellows for increased upper body mobility
14. Integrated Friend or Foe Identification Square on both left and right shoulder pocket flap.
15. Bellowed calf storage pocket on left and right leg
16. Moisture-wicking desert tan t-shirt
17. Patrol Cap with double thick bill and internal pocket
18. Improved hot-weather desert boot or temperate-weather desert boot
19. Two-inch, black nylon web belt
20. Moisture-wicking socks

## Welcome Home Co. I, 185th Aviation

PRRST STD  
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# Family Deployment Supplement to the Connecticut Guardian

VOL. 5 NO. 7

HARTFORD, CT

JULY 2004

## DeLauro proposes activation tax credit

STAFF SGT. STEVE MARKOWSKI  
65<sup>th</sup> PCH

Members of the Reserve Components who lose money when their units are activated could see a form of tax relief, if legislation proposed by a Connecticut Congresswoman is passed and signed into law.

Rep. Rosa DeLauro, of Connecticut's 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District, proposed the "Military Reserve Mobilization Income Security Act of 2004," also known as HR 4435, after meeting with families of Army Reservists who were in the midst of an activation that was in its 15<sup>th</sup> month, having been extended twice.

The official title of the bill is "To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a refundable wage differential credit for activated military reservists."

The bill would allow an activated member of any Reserve Component a tax credit, provided that the service member is called to active duty for a minimum number of days. The activated RC member would have to show a loss of income between military pay versus what he or she would have been getting at his or her civilian job. The maximum tax credit would be \$20,000.



Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro

that law, a family that falls within income limits is allowed to reduce its tax burden, based upon a need to support its children.

If HR 4435 passes, the Internal Revenue Service would likely develop a form that would then be filled out at tax time by an activated member of the Guard or Reserve.

That activated military person would have to prove a loss of income, reflected in his or her income tax filing and supported by documentation. The tax credit would be money by which the taxpayer can reduce his or her tax burden, according to DeLauro's office.

On April 26, DeLauro attended a forum organized by the Army for families of the 439<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company, which is based in New Haven. The 439<sup>th</sup> which is an Army Reserve unit that had been on active duty for 15 months at the time of the forum.

One of the topics discussed by family members was the fact that many Reserve Component personnel earn less money when they leave their civilian jobs to go on active duty. On May 20, DeLauro introduced her proposed legislation into the U.S. House of Representatives. As of mid-June, the measure has eight cosponsors in the House.

HR 4435 is similar to S.3809, a proposed bill that was introduced into the U.S. Senate on April 8 by Sen. Byron L. Dorgan, of North

Dakota. Sen. Richard Shelby, of Alabama is the only cosponsor of that Senate bill.

DeLauro points out that members of the Reserve Components are being called to active duty more frequently, many of them sacrificing finances, in addition to family time and the comforts of home.

"With Guardsmen and Reservists making up about 40 percent of our forces currently deployed in Iraq, we need to do everything we can to decrease the financial and emotional burdens that lengthy deployments cause," DeLauro said. "By providing an up to \$20,000 tax credit to Reservists and Guardsmen who are deployed for more than 90 consecutive days, we will provide much-needed financial relief to those serving and to their families, who are already sacrificing so much for our country."

Because this would be a tax credit, the U.S. Treasury would be required to pay out the accumulated total, and that total would not be subject to the appropriations process, according to DeLauro's office. The Joint Committee on Taxation, a House and Senate legislative committee, has estimated that this measure might cost approximately \$4.5-billion over the next 10 years.

With the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress currently working on a large slate of major legislation in a short legislative year, this particular measure might have difficulty moving forward. However, with the number of activations and the increase in the average time of an activation, this measure could gain support rapidly. If the measure does not move forward in the 108<sup>th</sup> Congress, it could be reprised in the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress next year. HR 4435 has been referred to the Ways and Means Committee by the House Parliamentarian.

"Our National Guardsmen and Reservists continually demonstrate dedication to our country," DeLauro said. "They leave their families and careers behind to serve in Iraq, Afghanistan and wherever they are called. We are increasingly relying on these citizen-Soldiers for our country's security, with the average deployment jumping from 3.6 months in 2000 to nearly 14 months this year."

## *Retroactive reimbursement for R & R leave participants approved*

The U.S. Army announced June 29 that service members who traveled on Rest and Recuperation leave while deployed in support of Operations Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom during the period 25 Sep-18 Dec 03, may be eligible for reimbursement of airline costs.

Payment of onward travel airline costs for R&R Leave Program participants was approved 19 Dec 03. Authorization was granted on 21 Jun 04 to implement retroactive reimbursement for those individuals who paid out-of-pocket for onward commercial airline travel during the period 25 Sep-18 Dec 03. Eligible personnel are military R&R participants who paid for their onward travel airline tickets from the Aerial Port of Debarkation they flew into from overseas, such as Baltimore-Washington International Airport, to their final leave destination.

According to Army records, approximately 40,000 service members traveled during the period of eligibility, and thus should file a claim with DFAS. Every attempt is being made to ensure those eligible for reimbursement are informed of their eligibility and given instructions on claiming any monies owed them.

More information for those who believe they qualify is available on the CENTCOM R&R Leave Program Web site at: [www.armyg1.army.mil/WellBeing/RRLeave](http://www.armyg1.army.mil/WellBeing/RRLeave)

For more information about the Rest and Recuperation (R&R) Leave Program, media may contact G-1 Public Affairs, at (703) 696-5207/696-5205. This document is available on Army Link, a World Wide Web site on the Internet at <http://www4.army.mil/ocpa/press/index.php>.

For updates and additional information on the CENTCOM R&R Leave Program, visit the Web site at: [www.armyg1.army.mil/WellBeing](http://www.armyg1.army.mil/WellBeing)

**"Our National Guardsmen and Reservists continually demonstrate dedication to our country. They leave their families and careers behind to serve in Iraq, Afghanistan and wherever they are called."**

Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro

According to DeLauro's office, the proposed bill would be similar to laws that allow tax credits for taxpayers. For example, the "Earned Income Tax Credit" is designed to provide relief to the working poor. Under



# DoD, Postal Service announce ballot initiative

DoD PRESS RELEASE

The Department of Defense and the U. S. Postal Service are launching a series of initiatives intended to expedite the delivery of absentee ballots to U. S. military personnel abroad for this year's general election.

Postal employees at the local level will contact each of the approximately 3,000 county election offices throughout the country to coordinate the mailing of absentee ballots. County election officials are currently accepting voter registrations and requests for absentee ballots. Once ballots are prepared for mailing, local post offices will facilitate the initial mailings of ballots via overnight Express Mail to the three military gateways (San Francisco, Miami and New York). This will take place approximately 30 to 45 days prior to Election Day.

After the initial ballot mailings, remaining ballots will be expedited on a daily basis from local post offices to military gateways.

USPS will determine the number of ballots per location at the gateways, sort by destination, and then place in specially marked containers providing visibility to give the highest priority while being transported to their destination.

The Military Postal System will then take over to ensure that ballots are given priority handling at overseas destinations and will make every attempt to deliver as expeditiously as possible. The MPS is a division of the DoD and operated as an extension of the USPS.

The MPS will ensure each completed ballot is given a proper, legible postmark at the time of mailing and will also place balloting materials in easily identifiable containers to ensure they are given priority in transportation back to the USPS gateways. The ballots will then be given priority processing for delivery back to county election officials.

This ambitious initiative is intended to give every service member the opportunity to vote so that his or her ballot can be counted.



Maj. Kevin McMahon of the 118th Medical Bn. found what a small world it can be when he ran into a young Soldier with the same last name in Iraq. (Photo courtesy of Maj. Kevin McMahon)



## HANDYPERSON HOTLINE





**"CARRYING THE HOMEFRONT"**


**SERGEANT MAJOR  
TOBY P. CORMIER**

**Ph: 860-441-2984**

**Cell: 860-209-0770**

**toby.cormier@ct.ngb.army.mil**

COME AND CELEBRATE THE RETURN OF



**OUR HOMETOWN HEROES**

CONNECTICUT  
NATIONAL GUARD  
TROOPS

**FREE ADMISSION**


**FREE FOOD**

**CONNECTICUT  
NATIONAL GUARD DAY**  
at Dodd Stadium, Norwich, CT  
Sunday, July 18, 2004  
2:00 pm Arrival & picnic  
**5:00 pm ceremony** recognizing  
Connecticut National Guard Troops  
**5:30 pm Norwich Navigators  
vs. Bowie Baysox**  
**Fireworks**  
following the game

**FREE ADMISSION**

**FREE FOOD**

**COME & TAKE PART  
IN THE CELEBRATION!**  
For your **FREE** tickets contact your Unit Full-Time Support  
Personnel or your local Family Assistance Center at  
1-800-858-2677



### WELCOME HOME COMMEMERATIVE T-SHIRTS HONORING THE 248<sup>th</sup> EN COI

We would like to show our support for the 248<sup>th</sup> by wearing Welcome Home t-shirts to their Homecoming. The cost of the shirt will be \$12.00, all profits will support the units welcome home event to be held in December. Please submit your order form with payment as soon as possible so that we can distribute on Homecoming Day.

We appreciate your support of our soldiers! Mail your completed order forms to:

Meg Marx C/O 248<sup>th</sup> Homecoming Committee 38 Stott Ave Norwich CT 06360

The shirt will have the Engineering Emblem on the Left Chest with 03 on one side and 04 on the other, above the emblem will be 248<sup>th</sup> EN CO and below will be CTARNG. The back will have a yellow ribbon in the background with OIF (Operation Iraqi Freedom) followed by the bases they were stationed at: Al Asad, Ar Ramadi & Baghdad down the back; at the bottom below the yellow ribbon it will say Welcome Home!

In addition we would like to order a shirt for each of the soldiers that would be the same in design except for instead of Welcome home it would say "Been There, Done That!" You may place your orders for these shirts now as well, however, they will be presented at the Homecoming Celebration.

We have several other ideas for fundraising including a cookbook. If you would like to participate in the project please let us know or simply mail your favorite (or your soldier's) recipe to Cookbooks C/O Homecoming Committee 38 Stott Ave Norwich CT 06360. If we do not get enough participants we will not be able to complete this project. You can also email your recipes to [andrea.lathrop@ct.ngb.army.mil](mailto:andrea.lathrop@ct.ngb.army.mil). Thanks for your help!

Please detach and mail promptly to Meg Marx c/o 248<sup>th</sup> Homecoming Committee 38 Stott Ave. Norwich CT 06360

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

"Welcome Home" T-shirts

Size Requested: Adult Small [ ] Medium [ ] Large [ ] X-Large [ ] XX-L [ ] XXX-L [ ]  
Youth Small [ ] Medium [ ] Large [ ] X-Large [ ]

"Been There, Done That!" T-shirts

Size Requested: Adult Small [ ] Medium [ ] Large [ ] X-Large [ ] XX-L

Total Number of Shirts Requested \_\_\_\_\_ x12.00=Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your checks/money orders out to Meg Marx and put 248<sup>th</sup> T-shirts in the memo.



# DoD begins Tricare Retail Pharmacy Program June 1

The Department of Defense has announced that on June 1, 2004, the new Tricare Retail Pharmacy (TRRx) contract takes effect for Tricare beneficiaries located in the 50 United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam.

The contract, awarded last year to Express Scripts Inc. of Maryland Heights, Mo., has approximately 53,000 civilian pharmacies in the nationwide network.

In the past, the Tricare regional managed care support contractors provided retail pharmacy services and most beneficiaries should not notice the change in services with the new contract.

To use the new retail pharmacy program, as with all other DoD health programs, beneficiaries must be eligible and enrolled in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System or DEERS.

“The new single contract integrates the previous regional contracts into one uniform retail pharmacy benefit across all Tricare regions,” said Army Col. William Davies, director, DoD pharmacy programs.

The TRRx program has many new enhancements.

Pharmacy claims processing is now centralized and beneficiaries no longer have to mail pharmacy claims to multiple sites for processing or call various telephone numbers to get assistance filling a prescription when using the retail network. Patient safety has also been enhanced by use of the Pharmacy Data Transaction Service to process all pharmacy claims, including paper claims.

For a single co-payment of \$3 for generic or \$9 for a brand-name prescription, eligible TRRx beneficiaries may continue to receive a 30-day supply of their prescription medication from the new network of retail pharmacies.

To use this benefit, a written pharmacy prescription and a uniformed services identification card are required.

Tricare beneficiaries who used a retail pharmacy last year will receive, by mail, a pharmacy identification card, a TRRx benefit guide and a letter listing the twelve network pharmacies close to their home.

The TRRx benefit is now portable. Beneficiaries traveling outside of their designated Tricare region who need to fill a prescription are no longer required to pay the full prescription price, or file a Tricare claim to get reimbursed for their out-of-pocket expenses when they use a Tricare

retail network pharmacy.

Pharmacy co-payments are the same in every location where the TRRx is available.

To locate a network pharmacy, beneficiaries may use the Tricare pharmacy locator service available on the Express Scripts Web site at <http://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE> [<http://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE>], or they may call (866) 363-8779 or, using the letters on the telephone keypad, spell (866) “DoD-TRRx.”

For eligible beneficiaries with other health insurance (OHI), Tricare pays after all other insurance plans have paid.

To use Tricare as the secondary payer or to obtain reimbursement for their out-of-pocket pharmacy expenses, beneficiaries will need to submit a Tricare claim form (DD Form 2642) and a receipt for their prescription medication to Express Scripts for processing. If the medication under the

beneficiary’s OHI is not a covered benefit or if the beneficiary’s prescription coverage has ended for the year, Tricare will

pay as the primary insurance payer.

The TRRx benefit is not available for beneficiaries who reside or travel outside the U.S. or its territories.

These beneficiaries are encouraged to use a military treatment facility, if available, or the Tricare Mail Order Pharmacy program to fill their prescription medications. Express Scripts can mail prescription medications to any U.S. postal address or to an APO/FPO address.

However, Express Scripts cannot send prescriptions to a private, foreign address. Prescriptions mailed to beneficiaries in overseas locations must be prescribed by providers who are licensed to practice in the United States.

A downloadable Tricare claim form is available on the Express Scripts Web site at <http://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE> [<http://www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE>]

or on the Tricare Web site at <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/claims> [<http://www.tricare.osd.mil/claims>]. Pharmacy claims filed with Express Scripts should be mailed to: Express Scripts, P. O. Box 66518, St. Louis, Mo., 63166-6518.

Beneficiaries residing in overseas locations, other than Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Island, do not have access to Tricare retail pharmacy networks.

Therefore, they must pay for their prescription medications upfront and submit a claim with Tricare overseas claims processor to be reimbursed.

“The new single contract integrates the previous regional contracts into one uniform retail pharmacy benefit across all Tricare regions.”

Col. William Davies

# Group seeks to provide child care to Reservists on R&R

KATHLEEN T. RHEM  
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

A nonprofit organization dedicated to helping families find high-quality child care is working to provide such care free of charge to Reserve and National Guard members on rest-and-recuperation leave from Iraq.

The National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies launched Operation Child Care in May. To date, more than 5,000 child-care providers have signed on to provide at least four free hours of child care to reservists and guardsmen.

“Child-care providers who meet state and local child-care regulations will provide four or more hours of free child care so that service members can attend to family business or take their spouses out for a date,” according to a news release on the program.

Three major commercial chains that specialize in child care — KinderCare Learning Centers, Bright Horizons Family Solutions and LaPetite Academy centers

— also have signed on to provide free care. KinderCare and LaPetite are each providing one full day of child care free of charge to eligible service members. Bright Horizons is providing two days of free child care.

Linda Smith, executive director of NACCRRRA, said the idea for Operation Child Care came out of a discussion she had in October with an official who oversees child-care centers for the Army. The two were discussing circumstances facing troops in today’s high-paced military.

The following week, Smith pitched the idea to a group of state child-care referral specialists meeting in Chicago and got an overwhelming response. “They all wanted to support it,” she said in a telephone interview with American Forces Press Service.

Volunteer providers are spread through communities across the country. Reserve and Guard members who are seeking care

for their children can find local providers through Operation Child Care’s Web site..

**Titles of different sections on the site include:**

10 Ways to Stay Involved With Your Children During Deployment; Supporting Young Children During War and Conflict; Talking to Children about a War in Iraq and Terror; Healthy Parenting Tool Kit; Getting to Know Children Again; The Help Guide to Guard and Reserve Family Readiness.

The site also includes tips on how to choose the best child care for your family and a list of things to consider before calling to request care.

Smith said officials decided to target the program to Guard and Reserve members because they don’t generally have the strong support system available to active-duty service members on military bases.

“They really don’t have access to military bases to begin with; they don’t get the same level of support in other ways; and they generally are the friends, neighbors and relatives of the people who are providing child care across this country,” Smith said.

Family-child-care provider Chris Milton, who has volunteered to provide free hours of child care through the program, knows first-hand the challenges facing military families. Her younger brother was deployed to the Middle East during 1991’s Operation Desert Storm. He missed Milton’s wedding and the birth of his own daughter during that deployment.

“Our family lost a lot (of family time) when my brother served,” Milton said.

She cares for children in her Connecticut home and said that she thinks it’s important “just to be able to help these other families at this time, because I know it’s so hard.”

Milton said her brother endorsed the idea of providing child care free of charge to military members, thinking back to his deployment experience. “He told me, ‘Chris, that would have been the best thing. We would have loved that,’” she said.

B M E R A H B M  
E G G I T W O A  
A A D N I A R T  
K N F E M A L E  
I Y W L W I N G

FIND THE WORDS  
About Peacocks

Right, Left, Up, Down or Diagonal

BEAK            MALE  
HAREM        MATE  
EGG            TRAIN  
FEMALE       TWO  
INDIA          WING



# Family Assistance Center locations

Family Assistance Centers are set-up in the following armories around the state:

Bristol Armory  
61 Center Street, Bristol, CT 06010  
(860) 582-1206 Toll Free 866-347-2283  
Sgt. Michael Bertoli

Waterbury Armory  
64 Field Street, Waterbury, CT 06702  
(203) 574-2406 Toll Free 866-347-2291  
Sgt. Jonathon Duffy & Spec. Tamara Jex

Manchester Armory & AVCRAD  
330 Main Street, Manchester, CT 06040  
(860) 646-0780 Toll Free 866-347-2286  
Capt. Lauri Tinelle

103rd FW, Bradley ANG Base  
Bldg 8, East Granby, CT 06026  
(860) 292-2730 Mrs. Donna Rivera

Hartford Armory  
360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06105-3795  
1-800-858-2677  
Mrs. Kim Hoffman, Mrs. Michelle McCarty, Mrs. Karen Somes,  
OC Claude Hibbert and Sgt. Jessica McKenna

Norwich Armory  
38 Stott Avenue, Norwich, CT 06360  
(860) 823-1342 Ext. 12 Toll Free 866-347-3357  
Mrs. Andrea Lathrop

103rd Air Control Squadron  
206 Boston Post Road, Orange, CT 06477  
(203) 795-2983 Charlie and Jane Solomon

118th Medical Company  
Location to be announced  
Sgt. Elizabeth Crouthamel (860) 883-6935

Volunteers are needed in each facility.  
Those wishing to help out can contact Mrs. Kim Hoffman, Family Program  
Manager at 1-800-858-2677.

Any family member or loved one of a deployed soldier who  
has questions about benefits or deployment issues may also get answers to their  
question at the following email address: kim.hoffman@ct.ngb.army.mil

## World's Easiest Quiz?

This one is for the kids to test their parents.  
Have some fun with this quiz and you may  
learn something...but then, so will your  
parents!

Kids'  
Creative  
Corner

1. How long did the Hundred Years War last?
2. Which country makes Panama hats?
3. From which animal do we get catgut?
4. In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
5. What is a camel's hair brush made of?
6. The Canary Islands in the Pacific are named after which animal?
7. What was King George VI's first name?
8. What color is a purple finch?
9. Where are Chinese gooseberries from?
10. How long did the Thirty Years War last?

A MONTHLY FEATURE OF  
FUN AND EDUCATIONAL  
ACTIVITIES

Answers: 1. 116 Years; 2. Ecuador; 3. Sheep and Horses; 4. November; 5. Squirrel fur; 6. Dogs; 7. Albert; 8. Crimsons; 9. New Zealand; 10. Thirty Years